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THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL
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FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

A GREAT DAY IN THE HOUSE.

The Case of Whittemore for Selling Cadetships—Most Exciting Scene Since the Impeachment of Johnson—Gen. Butler Appears for the Defense and Vents his Spleen on the Newspapers—Whittemore Allowed Time for Preparation of his Defense—His Expulsion Probable To-Day—He Will Endeavor to Resign—Four More Members Implicated.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1870.

The Whittemore Case.

The scene in the House wing of the Capitol to-day was not unlike that of two years ago, when the articles of impeachment were presented against Andrew Johnson, and vividly recalled those days of crowded galleries, struggling lobbies, eager excitement and nervous hurrying to and fro. To-day, as then, General Butler made himself one of the foremost figures in the drama. Then he appeared as one of the prosecutors; to-day as attorney for the defense. Then he had the House as his support. But to-day he was in a small minority, and amused himself with an occasional small spleen against the newspapers and their correspondents, harmless as it was characteristic. Everybody in town knew it would be a great day in the House, and it seems that nearly everybody resolved to see what was done and hear what was said. The galleries were packed an hour before the time fixed for calling up Whittemore's case. The great event of bringing a colored man into the Senate dwindled into a small affair beside the chance of seeing a white man turned out of the House, and Revels, under other circumstances, would have been the objective point of two or three thousand sharp eyes, and scarcely a corporal's guard in the Senate galleries to hear the debate on the question of his admission. All the morning the tide of human beings flowed towards the House, and up its broad stairways, and when the eventful hour came every foot of standing space in all the galleries heldits occupant, while thousands of excited and disappointed men and women struggled at the doors, crowded through the halls and jaced disconsolately in the rotunda. The floor of the House was filled with privileged persons, Senators, foreign Ministers, attaches of legations, governors of States and Senators, members of the Cabinet, heads of bureaus, officers of the army and navy, judges and marshals, and hundreds of private citizens admitted trough favor or importunity. The door opening into the Hall of Statuary was ajar, and ladies crowded the cloak rooms, the barber shops, postoffice and other surrounding rooms, and ere the day ended, they had possession of the lounges and rose-wood sofas on the floor, winding up the winter social excitements just before Lent with a day such as the House has not had since the Presidential vote was counted.

Opening Proceedings.

The day opened with a prayer by Mr. Ike's touching announcement of Burlingame's death, the swearing in of four members from reconstructed Mississippi, and an hour's debate on the attractive Mormon question. Then Mr. Dawes had the floor for half an hour with his appropriation bill, which members so persistently debate line by line, and item by item, and at two o'clock it was passed by, with set lips and strong air of business, called up the Whittemore report. That individual was not in his seat, and had not been there since the adjournment of Monday. Persons had been asking all morning to have him pointed out, but his vacant chair was all that could be shown. He must have been near at hand, however, for he appeared within a minute or two after Logan rose, dejected in manner, and with his hands full of papers. He looked up to find all eyes in the galleries searching him out, then sat down and composed himself there quietly till the proceedings of the day closed.

Points of Order Raised.

The first hour was chiefly occupied by points of order, members making them and the Speaker ruling on them in his usual prompt and decisive fashion, catching each at the instant it was raised, and giving his answers without pause or hesitation. It was nervous work, and exploded quick thinking, but he acquitted himself that no one appealed. Gen. Butler, of course, took a thrust at him, snapping out he would not argue the point as the Speaker could always have the last word. Messrs. Poland, of Vermont; Butler, of Massachusetts; Jenckes, of Rhode Island; Davis, of New York; Schenck, of Ohio; Platt, of Virginia; Farnsworth, of Illinois, and Butler, of Massachusetts, little Hamilton Ward, of New York, were the members who had the points of order, either direct or indirect. They were of five classes, viz: That Whittemore had a right to be heard by counsel; that he had a right to speak for himself, or by his friends, at such length as he pleased; that the rules of the House were not applicable to these proceedings; that the report must be submitted by himself in person; that he was entitled to an immediate vote, without argument, on his application by affidavit for a postponement of the case. The Speaker ruled that the question of delay could be argued; that no one could take the floor from Gen. Logan; that the rules of the House must govern; that the members were in a parliamentary body and not in court; that Whittemore could not directly be heard by counsel, but might give his time to some one else if he pleased, and that the rules allowed him but one hour, though the House might, if it chose, suspend or set aside the rules by consent.

Judge Poland showed a good deal of perplexity in his efforts to get delay, and at one time used language of such a character that Gen. Logan retorted he had the same rights on the floor as any other member, and would neither be put down nor intimidated, by Poland or any one else. Mr. Butler's course throughout his hour was such as it usually is in a stormy time, when he cannot have things to his own notion, and this attack will probably make his bearing apparent to even the dullest reader and render any characterization of it unnecessary.

Whittemore's Affidavit and Butler's Defense.

The end of the struggle was that Whittemore was allowed to have his affidavit read, and to give Gen. Butler the time to which he would have been entitled.

The affidavit asked delay for three causes, viz. That he might call new witnesses; that he might cross-examine old witnesses, and that he might attempt to show an effort to black mail him. It was noticeable that he does not pretend to deny the sale of both cadetships, and only sets up that he ought not to be punished for the reason that he used the money he received in his district and not for his own or direct benefit. General Butler was adroit and vigorous in his speech, but it didn't help Whittemore's case. He sneered at the newspapers, and whisingly asked that "they may be available," and not having worked off his ill nature in that declaration he vehemently announced to the House and country, "if there is one thing on earth to which I am superior, it is the newspapers." Having thus modestly blowed his own horn, he went on with his speech to the edification of the galleries and the humble reporters.

General Logan's Reply.

General Logan spoke nearly an hour in reply, tripping Butler on points of law, defending the Committee from the attack, and showing that the day has gone by in which Butler can ride roughershod over everybody in the House. The noticeable feature of Logan's argument was that he said he was willing to throw away all evidence in Whittemore's case, and rest the issue on his confession before the Committee and his affidavit, and he clearly called attention to the fact that the law was violated until the indictments were found, and nothing whatever to do with the question of how he used the money he received. He closed at half-past four, and at once called the previous question. On Mr. Poland's motion for postponement and further investigation, the Judge again tried to get the floor for his speech, but the House cut off further debate by ordering the previous question. Most persons understood that the vote on this point is generally in some sense a test on the main issue, and there was intense excitement throughout the chamber when the Speaker called on those members to stand and be counted. The count sustained the previous question by yeas, 108; nays, 25.

Whittemore knew what that meant as well as the galleries did. Then came the long monotonous call of the yeas and nays, one by one, from Arnell to Woodward, and in the pause of a breath, while everybody waited in dazed interstness, it was announced that the House by a vote of 155 to 39 had refused to accept the motion for delay.

Whittemore Asks Time for a Hearing.

The order for the main question on the resolution of expulsion was swiftly carried by 166 to 22, and all eyes quickly turned to Whittemore, who slowly and tremblingly rose in his place, asked a hearing, pleaded that the House to adjourn and allow him till to-morrow noon for preparation. General Logan had shown a disposition all day to give him every possible, and of course could not deny this request. There was a brief delay, so that a fair understanding might be had, and then the House unanimously adjourned, people coming as they went out on the fact that Butler did not vote on any of the questions raised and that all the members who are somewhat implicated in this cadet business voted for delay.

The Vote to Postpone.

Following are the members who, after Mr. Logan had twice stated to the House in his speech, Mr. Whittemore being present, that Whittemore did not deny and would not deny having been paid $900 for one cadetship and $1,400 for another, voted to postpone action on the matter: Arnell, Ayers, Banks, Bennett, Benton, Boles, Booker, Barr, Buckley, Burdett, Cake, Cessna, Churchill, Clarke, Coburn, Covode, Dockery, Dyer, Golladay, Hayes, Jenckes, Jones, N. C., Julian, Kelley, Kelsey, Maynard, McCormick, Negley, Orth, Phelps, Platt, Poland, Root, Sargent, Sheldon, Taffe, Twitchell, Van Horn and Wyck.

A Trick by Whittemore.

There is a story in general circulation to-night that the delay asked by Whittemore was for the purpose of getting his resignation before the House, and thus trick that body out of its sentence. The story excites a good deal of indignation, as Gen. Logan allowed the case to go over without a vote after the previous question had been ordered, at the special request of Whittemore on the ground that he desired to say something further in self-defense.

Butler's Fling at the Newspapers.

The value of Butler's fling at the newspaper men in Washington is shown by the fact that no one whose news has been mentioned in any of the cases has any newspaper connection here.

Gen. Sypher's Case.

In spite of General Sypher's card denying that there is any evidence before the committee, direct or indirect, implicating him, Mr. Brooks testifies positively that he was referred to Sypher's brother by Sypher himself and the subsequent negotiations with Sypher's brother are not denied.

Four More Congressmen Implicated.

The committee examined three witnesses today, and four new names are said by the members of the committee to have been brought out in connection with the investigation.

Letter from Speaker Blaine on the Public Expenditures.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 21, 1870. }

MY DEAR SIR: In the contusion which has arisen in some of the public journals about estimates and appropriations and supplementals, the impression has been created that General Grant's administration has expended more money in the same time than its immediate predecessor. This is totally erroneous, as the balance-sheet, on a comparison of official figures, will clearly establish. The present administration has been in power nearly a year, and we can compare that period with the closing twelve months of President Johnson's administration. From March 1st, 1868, to March 1st, 1869, the total receipts into the Treasury were a little over three hundred and sixty-eight million dollars—I avoid fractions for the sake of perspicuity. Every dollar of this was expended, and the public debt for the same period increased about six million dollars, as appears from the official publications of the Treasury Department. The total expenditures for the year of three hundred and seventy-four million dollars, nearly.

The total receipts in the Treasury for the first year of General Grant's administration, estimating for the few remaining days, will amount to three hundred and ninety-four million dollars, nearly. Of this sum only about two hundred eighty millions have been applied to the payment of the public debt, thus leaving for the current expenditures of the Government, including interest on the public debt, three hundred and fourteen million dollars—$34,000,000 or sixty millions less than was expended in the same time by President Johnson's administration. These figures are taken from official records, and their accuracy cannot be questioned.

It will be observed that the receipts were twenty-six millions ($26,000,000) more in General Grant's first year than in Mr. Johnson's last year. Over twenty million dollars of this must be credited to the internal revenue, which has been much more faithfully collected. And it will be noted that this large increase in amount has been derived from diminished and comparatively light rates of taxation, many of the taxes in force during a part of the year 1868-9 having been repealed before President Grant came into office. Whether justly or otherwise, he had to the fidelity with which the revenue is collected, or the economy with which it is expended, the comparison of the past is undeniably and overwhelmingly in favor of the present administration.

For the future the fullest confidence may be indulged. The Ohio river obstruction resolutions, and moved the Senate concur. Agreed to.

New County Bill Postponed.

The House defeated Senator Lowry's new county bill by a vote of 69 to 53 in favor of Mr. Junkin's motion to postpone.

Bills Passed.

Mr. Brown called up this bill extending the general manufacturing law of 1863 to the transportation of oil in pipes in Venango, Forest, Armstrong, Clarion, Butler, Jefferson, Clearfield and Warren counties, which was passed.

The bill extending the Mechanics Lien Law on leasehold estates in Venango to Armstrong, Clarion and Butler was passed.

Objected off the Calendar.

Mr. Niles objected off the act extending the charter of the Erie Canal Company and authorizing the company to slack water the Ohio from Beaver to Pittsburgh.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.

A Wife Suspected of Causing Her Husband's Death—A Fruitful Religious Revival.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., February 23, 1870.

Morgan Reynolds, a boss roller at the mill of Brown, Bonnel & Co., died very suddenly today. From the evidence taken at the inquest, now holding, it seems the relation between Reynolds and his wife has not been very harmonious A divorce was talked of, and she at various times threatened to do away with him. She is strongly suspected of being the cause of his death. A post mortem examination is to be held.

The revivals in the different churches, which have been in progress six weeks, still continue with unabated interest. Two hundred and forty have been taken in at the M. E. Church; over one hundred at the Presbyterian, and a large number at the other churches.

Buy Winter Wheat Flour.

The best brands, and for the least money, of T. C. Jenkins & Bro., Checkered Front: also, package teas and roasted coffee. †

CONGRESS.

The Arraignment of Mr. Whittemore

For Selling Cadetships—He is Allowed One Day's Grace—The Bill to Prevent and Punish Polygamy—Senator Elect Revel's Credentials Received by the Senate, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1870.

SENATE.

Mr. SPENCER offered resolutions instructing the Naval and Military Committees to report upon the expediency of abolishing the naval academy at Annapolis and the military academy at West Point, and the substitution by assignments to duty in various colleges throughout the Union of naval and military officers as instructors in navigation, naval warfare and military tactics, or the inauguration of some other system calculated to relieve the Government of the large expense, and enable all who desired it to secure a liberal education for the army or navy at their own expense. Agreed to.

Mr. WILSON presented the credentials of H. R. Revels, Senator elect from Mississippi, which were read. The paper has a certificate of election for the term ending in 1871, and signed by Gen. Ames, Military Governor of Mississippi.

Mr. SAULSBURY inquired if the paper was any evidence of the election of the person referred to.

The CHAIR said if any objection was made to the administration of the oath to Mr. Revels, the question whether the oath should be administered would be submitted to the Senate.

Mr. SAULSBURY said before the question of administering the oath came up other questions might have to be settled at this particular stage. He submitted that the certificate of a military officer that this man had been elected to the Senate of the United States was not such a certificate as is required by the law.

Mr. STEWART remarked that the certificate of election of various Senators from the reconstructed State had been signed by Provisional Governors.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. Saulsbury, Drake, Trumbull, Wilson, Stockton and others, as to the legality of the credentials.

The Senate then decided, without division, to receive the papers presented by Mr. Wilson.

Mr. STOCKTON offered a resolution to refer to the Judiciary Committee the credentials of Ames and Revels, and instructing them to report upon the expediency of admitting parties had been citizens of the United States for a period of nine years, and were inhabitants of Mississippi at the time of the adoption of the recent constitutional sense, and whether said Ames was not within the inhibition of the fifteenth article of election a commissioned officer of the United States and military commander in Mississippi under the reconstruction acts, and whether he has since resigned.

Mr. TRUMBULL said the credentials of Ames had not been presented, and therefore could not be referred.

Mr. STOCKTON modified his resolution so as to omit reference to Ames, but proceeded to discuss the question touching the case of both gentlemen.

Mr. WILSON desired the present case considered on its merits. Mr. Revels was a citizen of Ohio twenty years ago, and the evidence of his citizenship had been completed.

Mr. TRUMBULL said the discussion of the claim of Ames to a seat was premature. There was no excuse for referring the present matter to the Committee. There was nothing to show that Revels was not an inhabitant of the State from which he came. The evidence of his election to the Senate was full, regular and in order. The objection that he was elected before the Mississippi was restored to the Union could not be entertained, because the organization of the Legislature and election of United States Senators were legalized in the admission of the State.

Mr. DAVIS gave notice of his intention to resist to the last the admission of the two men, and in the conscientious discharge of his duty he would interpose no obstruction at every stage of the proceedings. Never before in history had a colored man been elected to the Senate, but the sword of the Dictator had opened the people of Mississippi to the conviction that he would have been presented here. This man never was and never would be the choice of the people of Mississippi for Senator. He was not a citizen, as shown by the Dred Scott case. He held that the power did not confer naturalization upon a colored man.

Mr. SHERMAN said he would inform Senator Davis that twenty years ago the Supreme Court of Ohio, then composed mainly of Democrats, decided Mr. Dred Scott's case. The same Court holding that the words "a white citizen" meant one nearer white than black. Mr. Revels was instructed in this decision, and voted in Ohio, having once enjoyed citizenship, it could not be divested.

Mr. NYE expressed surprise to hear the Dred Scott case alluded to by Senators on this occasion. He looked upon that decision as an outrage upon the Constitution and upon the rights of the people, and it was a source of pleasure and grandest uprising of the people of any age. He (Nye) received that decision with joy, and would make the man. He rejoiced the long looked for day when the theory of the common brotherhood of man to take practical effect in substance was at hand. He implored his friend Davis to cease fighting against the inevitable, and to his republican father's house, where there was bread enough and to spare. (Laughter)

Mr. DAVIS replied that he and Senator Nye and every other Senator were fully as much prejudiced against the negro as he (Nye) could have had any at all, he had not seen the honorable Senator (Nye) standing upon a colored Dinah with a ball or exhibiting his gallantry before darkey wenches. He had not known a Senator to do such things. He was not the clamorous in favor of the rights of the negro and equality of races who had paid court to the fair black sex, or accompanied her to the hymeneal altar. When he (Nye) boarded the train at Washington and on the Republican side offered to practice the amenities of life which might be considered as amenable to the charge of prejudice against color, because he never could consent to do any of these things.

Mr. SAULSBURY obtained the floor, but yielded to a motion to adjourn, which carried.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Immediately after the reading of the journal Mr. BANKS announced the death of Hon. Anson Burlingame, on authority of a dispatch from Minister Curtin, at St. Petersburg, to Secretary Fish. He made a few remarks in eulogy of the deceased.

George E. Harris, J. L. Morphis, Geo. C. W. McKee and Legrand W. Pierce, members elect from Mississippi, appeared, took the oath of office.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill to prevent and punish polygamy in Utah. Mr. FITCH, while favoring the suppression of polygamy, opposed the bill because it would lead to at least the temporary destruction of the Territorial Legislature, and of productive of a war, which, while it would eventually end in the extermination of the Mormons, would cost hundreds of millions more of treasure and thousands of lives. The suppression of polygamy would follow in his judgment be purchased at too great cost.

Mr. SARGENT also spoke in opposition to the bill on similar grounds.

The morning hour expired and the bill went over for further consideration.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Legislative bill, and continued the discussion till two o'clock, at which time the question of the expulsion of B. F. Whittemore came up for action.

David Atwood, member elect from Wisconsin, successor of Mr. Hopkins, deceased, appeared and took the oath.

Mr. LOGAN, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, addressed the House.

Mr. POLAND interrupted and asked leave to offer a resolution for the postponement of the Whittemore case, on the ground that the case was not in condition to be decided on intelligently.

Mr. LOGAN declined to yield for that purpose. As Chairman of the Committee he could not consent to any postponement whatever for any purpose, except to let the accused member present such defense as he desired to offer.

Mr. POLAND did not desire to appear, nor did he appear, as the counsel or agent of the gentleman from South Carolina; but as he was elected in this case as one of the judges, he desired to know how he could proceed to have the affidavit of the latter read.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, made an argument for postponement, quoting the sixth article of the Constitution, which guarantees the right of the accused to be confronted with the witnesses against him, and have the assistance of counsel. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the witness Brooks as a newspaper man, and so were Cathcart and Landon.

A member asked what a newspaper man meant.

Mr. BUTLER—It means a man who hangs about this city and writes lies home to his newspaper. (Laughter.) Among every one involved in that illicit and abominable traffic is a newspaper man, and we are to be frightened out of our propriety by telegrams and lies they send home, stating that we will expel Mr. Whittemore in order to defend our dignity. These selling and buying rascals! Laughter.) A telegram has been sent to my own State and published in the journals since I had the hardihood of moving that time be given to the House that Whittemore might be heard. Now, I say, any one would vote for Whittemore except those who had been selling cadetships, or had schemes which they dare not have ventilated in the House." I am more inclined to think nobody would vote against him for that reason, and I know members of the House, and know that they have more independence than that. I will do my duty here before God and man, independent of newspapers, for if there is any one thing on earth I am superior to, it is newspapers. (Very general laughter.)

I want to know the extent of this custom of disposing of cadetship appointments. If it should turn out it has grown up to be a custom, that it is commonly done, I shall want to ask the House whether penalties for that should not be inflicted. The gentleman from Massachusetts, in his affidavit, says he could not have the money he had received. If there were an important bill before the House, and if a member should say he could not give his vote for it for a consideration of $10,000, would it be any excuse for him to say that he had received the money for his appointment to a cadetship? Whatever the motive, he did with

The Daily Commercial.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 1870.

The United States Bonds of 1881 sold in New York yesterday at the same price that gold was selling—117 7-8 and 118. These were the first bonds of the war, and for the first time are now as good as gold.

MR. SEWARD will soon have an opportunity to enlarge on the charming climate of Alaska. The city authorities of New York have tendered him the hospitalities of the city on his arrival home from his Pacific, Mexican and West Indian tour. The reception is to take place at the Academy of Music. Mr. SEWARD arrived at Baltimore on Monday, and after a few days rest there, will proceed northward.

THE Supreme Court of the United States has rendered a decision of importance to those interested in the legality of Indiana divorces. The case came up on an appeal from the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, which decided the Indiana divorce void on each of the subjects which it claims to dispose, viz: the divorce, the property and the children. The Supreme Court of the United States, Mr. Justice SWAYNE rendering the decision, reversed the decree of the lower Court, taking the ground that as the divorce is valid by the laws of Indiana, and has never been questioned there under the Constitution of the United States, it must prevail in every other part of the country. Justice SWAYNE also asserts that, so far from being bound by the domicile of her husband, a married woman may acquire a residence independent of the husband whenever such a residence is necessary to the protection of her rights by litigation.

THE death of ASSON BURLINGAME, which occurred in St. Petersburg, a few days since, cannot fail of seriously interfering with if it does not put a stop to the operations of the Chinese Mission, of which he was the head. For the novelty if not the importance of the position he held, he was at the moment one of the most conspicuous men of the time; and it must be conceded that on more than one occasion he had shown that he was a man of a very high order of ability. To Americans his elevation and the success of his mission everywhere have been extremely gratifying; and probably it would not be too much to say that not only our own country but all the great nations had come to regard his influence in the affairs of China, both present and prospective, with special interest, if not with the utmost favor. In this respect his death will be regarded variously: by our own country it will be deeply regretted as involving an irreparable loss; for as his selection for the important position which he held at the time of his death was in consequence of great confidence which a protracted residence had caused the Chinese Government to have in him, it is scarcely possible that another American, or any one, will take his place at once; and it is altogether doubtful whether one could be found who would fill it in every respect with equal ability. It is gratifying to know that much of that for which Mr. BURLINGAME'S mission was created has been accomplished, and that though with his death its functions also may cease, his name and fame will have been wrought into the permanent history of his time.

WHEN the Sunday question was the subject of agitation here a few months ago, speeches were made and articles were written in which it was confidently asserted or assumed that only Americans are sticklers for a strict observance of Sunday. And the narrow-minds of their views in regard to the right mode of spending the day, was accounted for by their distance from the advanced civilization of the old world. We trust that all who still retain this impression look note of the report, in yesterday's cable dispatches, of the introduction of a new Sunday Bill in the House of Lords. It was introduced by Lord CHELMSFORD and was supported by the Bishop of London, and by the Earl of Morlay, who signified that the measure had the support of the Government. We know before that Mr. LOWE, Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. BRIGHT have all, on different occasions, made speeches in advocacy of the old fashioned English Sunday. The fact is, that for some years now there has been a good deal of agitation in England for the purpose of effecting such a change in the existing Sunday laws as may permit the laboring classes to derive from the time of rest and leisure certain advantages at present impossible. Several of the most popular writers have exerted their influence in favor of relaxation, and on account of the strong sentiment prevalent in this direction there has lately been much laxity in the enforcement of existing laws. From the same dispatch we learn that in London alone more than ten thousand shops (stores) are usually open on Sunday. No doubt exists, however, that the dominant opinion of the English people is favorable to a decent, if not strict observance of Sunday as a sacred day.

A VERY decided ministerial triumph in the French Legislative body was announced among the cable dispatches published in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday. M. FAVRE, in his speech of the day before, demanded the dissolution of the chamber, as having failed to comprehend or meet the situation. Count D'ARN's defense of the ministry was received, we are told, with much enthusiasm, and when the vote was taken, the Government was sustained by a majority of 226 against 18.

This incident adds another to the many indications afforded by the last few weeks, that the French people believe in the Emperor's declared desire to establish Parliamentary Government. It also proves the confidence reposed by the Legislative Body in the ability and good intentions of OLLIVIER. Whatever blame was incurred by the Ministry's manner of dealing with ROCHEFORT, has not been permitted to overwhelm the Minister-in-Chief. Indeed, that atrocious libeler and charlatan, the *Lanterne* man, seems to be so well understood and so little valued by the better portion of his countrymen, it is not unlikely that the correspondent to whom we referred yesterday, may have quite misunderstood the *effect* of the assumed blunder in dealing with him.

An important step in the direction of the government reform going on under the Emperor's inspiration and guidance, in anticipation of his own death and the succession of his son, is the "report favoring the decentralization of the executive administration." This report, we are informed, was prepared by M. VUITMONIL, Minister of the Interior, and has been submitted to the Emperor and the Legislative body. Equally significant and worthy of notice is the announcement that a list has been published of well-known liberal statesmen appointed to revise and modify the existing system of administrative legislation through the Empire. GUIZOT and PREVOST-PARADOL are members of this commission.

ONE old Capuchin, whom I came upon the other evening near the Forum, had grown so worked himself into a kind of divine rage about the Free-masons and his hearers seemed to be in a good deal of terror at the minute and particular way in which he described the machinations of that "accursed, blasphemous and impious crew." It is rather curious, by the way, to find how large a part the "abomination of Freemasonry" subsists in the clerical imagination here at Rome. The "Freemasons" seem to be regarded now as the Turks were in the time of Peter the Hermit. They are charged, and to a large degree justly, with having at the bottom of all the "liberalism" of the age, with ever having had influence over the minds of princes, and with perverting the policy of empires. Certainly, I do not believe that there is to be found another place in the whole world in which so much is feared of "Freemasonry" as here and now. But I do not quite see why the church should be so much disturbed about this mysterious organization when it has the power which it so constantly claims for itself of working miracles and commanding unseen forces for its service.

This extract is taken from the Roman correspondence of a leading New York daily newspaper. The letter is dated January 27. Its statement reminds us that four or five months ago we attempted, in a short article, to describe the attitude of the Church of Rome towards secret societies in general and towards Freemasonry in particular. Brief mention was made of the Illuminati; of the foundation of the order, in the latter part of last century, by ADAM WEISHAUPT, an ex-Jesuit, some time professor of law at Ingolstadt; and of the avowed object of the institution to resist the tendency to reaction extensively produced by the diffusion of the disciples of Loyola over Europe, in consequence of their expulsion from Spain, France, and other countries under Bourbon rule. WEISHAUPT's object may have been to abolish all forms of Christianity, and it is certain that he hated the Papal Church with peculiar intensity. The mastery of intrigue and combination imparted by his Jesuit education he applied in the organization of his new society. Branches of it were established in all the Catholic countries of Europe, and well informed authors assure us that in Germany, France and Italy he very generally succeeded in connecting his association with the Freemason lodges. Sometimes, they say, he drew all the Freemasons of a town or district into his Order of Illuminati; sometimes, he merely engrafted Illuminism on Freemasonry, but the result in both cases was to render the old Order subservient to his purpose, whatever that precisely was. By leading Roman Catholics it was confidently believed that the single object of the Illuminati was the destruction of their church, and on the continent of Europe Illuminism and Freemasonry were very commonly regarded as pretty much the same thing. With the Catholic Church Freemasonry got an evil reputation, from which it has never recovered. It was denounced in the highest quarters, and in Catholic Germany and in Italy it is still a synonym for a secret organization directed against the church and its priests.

THE FALL OF A KING.

Instability is plainly written on all thrones now-a-days. The world is getting rid of its Bourbons as fast as it can, and few are bold enough to predict a long duration for the NAPOLEON dynasty of France. Some people, however, seem slow to acknowledge the *universal* shakiness of the regal position, and that change is going on among mountain dynasties as well as human. In this country our sturdy consistency in the maintenance of Democratic principles has kept us from recognizing any one of our mountains as a monarch, and hence the progress of exploration has subjected none of us to the mortification of transferring our allegiance to a series of peaks, each in succession proved to be the highest and therefore entitled to supreme dominion. But in the old world the essential absurdity and nonsense of monarchy have been illustrated among mountains as among men. For a long time the Peak of Kinchinjainga, of the Himmalaya range, 28,178 feet high, was recognized as the monarch of the Asiatic mountains. Its snowy crown, seen a hundred miles away, seemed to entitle it to supremacy. But the British trigonometrical surveyors with their instruments proved its claims illegitimate, and all loyal and well informed people at present pay homage to Mount Everest as supreme among the elevations of Asia. It is twenty-nine thousand and two feet high. The most remarkable and important instance, however, of the instability of regal glory among mountains has been exhibited in Europe. The throne of Mont Blanc appeared to rest on foundations so broad and deep that even now there are persons quite unwilling to believe that it has fallen.

A few persist in their allegiance, like ARDIEL, faithful found among the faithless. Others may not have heard of the revolution. These may remind us of those steadfast Democrats in Berks county, who, at a recent date, had not heard that General JACKSON had ceased to preside in Washington, or of the parson in the Hebrides who but lately gave over reading prayers for GEORGE the Third and his family. It is certainly not yet universally known that Mont Blanc is no longer "the monarch of European mountains." Only a few days ago we knew a no less intelligent person than a schoolmaster not only to listen without contradiction or demur while this rank was assigned to it, but to justify and explain the error by the statement that its summit, rising to the height of fifteen thousand and ten feet, more or less, according to the actual quantity of condensed snow on the top, is absolutely the most elevated point in Europe. Hence it seems worth while to remind those who know, and to call the attention of others to the fact, that a few years ago the Eastern boundary of Europe was changed as to take in at least two peaks higher than Mont Blanc. These two loftier mountains are Mount Elbruz and Mount Kazbek, the best known summits of the Caucasus chain. The former attains a height of 18,526 feet, an elevation of more than 2,700 feet above the former King of European mountains. Kazbek is not much lower than Elbruz, while several other peaks not here named rise above the height of Mont Blanc.

Everybody probably knows that the eastern boundary of Europe was long purely arbitrary. Geographers had often suggested that the line of the Caucasus ought to be recognized as forming the proper boundary between Europe and Asia, as its water shed affords a sort of natural division. A few years ago this view was officially adopted by the Russian government—and hence through invasion and extension of territory the honors of Mont Blanc passed over to a mightier monarch.

In connection with this subject of the supercedure of Mont Blanc as the monarch of European mountains, it is interesting to note some recent proceedings of the Alpine club, or rather of a few of its members. As our readers know, the object of this company is to apply the principle of association to the exploration of the Alpine heights. Its members consist of persons who have actually made ascents more or less adventurous, or who are so much interested in the study of mountain scenery and phenomena as to be willing to contribute money and time to the promotion of this object. At intervals, valuable papers, and even volumes, have been published under the auspices of the society. The highest peaks of the Caucasus range, having by the action of the Russian Government, been brought within the boundaries of Europe, it seemed to the Alpine Club almost a point of honor not to leave them unascended and unexplored. Accordingly, in January, 1868, two members of this Club, Messrs. FRESHFIELD and TUCKER, accompanied by an experienced Alpine guide, entered upon the task of doing for the peaks of Elbruz and Kazbek what has been done for all the most important heights of the Alps. The results of their advertures have been given to the world in two works, and those who have read these volumes describe them as confirming reports of great value and interest. We can, at present, only state generally, that these English explorers represent the ascent of these mountains as equalling, if not surpassing that of the Alps in difficulty—and that in summing up the comparative merits of Caucasian and Alpine scenery, they decidedly prefer the former to the latter. Mr. FRESHFIELD says:

> There is nothing in Switzerland or the Tyrol that can compare with the magnificent groups of the Suanetian ranges, or with the gorges cut by the northern rivers through the limestone ridge which bars their way down to the steppe. In the Caucasus the snow-line is very high, and the small character of the peaks is lost by shooting up from the valleys at their full height. In no respect, perhaps, in which the Gulf of the Westernhas afford the nearest parallel.

The effect of these representations will certainly be to turn the faces of many Western adventurers and travelers towards the comparatively little known regions of the Caucasus. Russian military and civil servants, called thither by their official duties, have hitherto much neglected the work of exploration; indeed, they seem to possess little taste either for scenery or for climbing mountains. But they will probably find their taste stimulated by English and German example, and from the united exertions of all, large additions will certainly be made to geographical and other knowledge.

THE Philadelphia School Comptrollers are considering the sketch of a proposed act of Assembly, providing for the compulsory education of children at some school for at least six months every year. The *Ledger* objects to the law on the ground that as matters stand there is an insufficient number of schools in the city for those demanding admission. There is no doubt, it urges, that some measure is needed to insure education to the thousands of children now growing up in ignorance; but it seems to be a logical necessity that provision for school houses and teachers should precede legislation for compulsory attendance.

A FUNNY story is current at Washington of the way the cadet sale investigation got its start. One of the ex-Congressmen implicated is H. J. Hunt, of Louisiana; and Sypher bears such a wonderful personal resemblance to General Slocum, of New York, that somebody who heard Sypher offering to sell a cadetship reported that Slocum had made the offer. The latter, upon learning the fact, became quite indignant and decided that the surest way to vindicate himself, and at the same time to expose villainy in high places, was to introduce the resolution of inquiry.

MR. GREELEY in a speech at a large meeting held in New York, on Monday, to provide an asylum for the wounded and needy soldiers, told an amusing anecdote of a soldier whom he saw in Washington while a procession was passing, and when a lady said to him: "You are standing right in front of me," he answered: "Yes, and that is just where I have stood for the last five years."

THE earnings of the railroads for the month of January show a general decline. The receipts of twelve leading roads aggregate $4,571,-930, against $4,797,076 for the same month last year, showing a decline of about 5 per cent.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The act of the Utah Legislature, which is composed of a body of faithful bishops, conferring suffrage on women, like the acts of the Mormons in general, proceeded from a selfish motive. The truth is, there seemed a fair chance of the opposition to Brigham electing the delegate to Congress and the Territorial Legislature next August, unless something desperate was done. Giving their concubines the suffrage arms them with four-fold means for the perpetuation of ther power. The less they say about their high motives in March, the less ridicule they will subject themselves to.

The teachers of the Trinity Church Parish Schools in New York, are now on a strike, some of them only receiving a weekly salary of $10. Trinity Church is the richest religious corporation in the city.

The *Food Journal*, published in London, states that a sample of tea sold in that city as fine green gunpowder tea, on examination proved to be nothing but common "caper" leaves, ingeniously faced and manipulated. The manufacture of this spurious tea, it is stated, is carried on in England.

Trinity Church Corporation seems to be in some trouble. Parties brought suit against the corporation, some time ago, in the Superior Court, before Judge MORRIS, whose decision has not yet been given, but which may affect the tenure of office of those who are administering the estate. The tenants are holding back, and refuse to pay the rent to the Corporation during the pendency of the decision. The income of the Corporation is $1,000,000 per annum.

The strictness of English game laws and their enforcement is illustrated by the fact that a young man is now lying in Exeter jail on a three months' sentence, for having five years ago shot a pheasant, either on his father's farm or on the neighboring turnpike. Immediately after he committed the fearful deed of blood, dreading the majesty of the law, he fled from home, and did not dare to return. But his elder brother died, and his parents longed for him, and so, after they had held some consultation with the authorities, and obtained a half promise that the son should be exempted from arrest, he returned, three years and a half after his flight from home. A year and a half he was unmolested, but at the end of that time he was seized, tried, and sent to prison for three months as a felon, for the awful crime of interfering with "gentlemen's sport by shooting a bird five years ago."

The daily expenses of attendance upon the Ecumenical Council, in Rome, average 4,000 scudi, or about $4,000 in gold.

The old whaling ship Truelove, now hailing from Hull, England, was built for the merchant trade in Philadelphia, in the year 1770, having reached the patriarchal age of one hundred and six years. The Truelove was employed during the revolutionary war as a privateer, but was unfortunately captured by a British cruiser, and in the year 1780 she was purchased from the British Government by parties in Hull. She was then employed in the wine trade, between Oporto and Hull. This vessel has made eighty voyages to Greenland, and is now carrying ice from Norway to English ports.

An entire revolution in the method of constructing railway carriages is under consideration in England. It is proposed to make them much lighter than at present; and to mount them on trucks, in the same way that an ordinary coach is, on its four wheels. The present form of car wheels is to be abandoned, and the fixed axle-trees are to give place to those which will allow the wheels to run independently of each other and freely, and so adapt themselves to all curves, &c. There are to be no buffers; but the ends of the carriages are to be circular, and to be secured closely together.

The New York *Herald* publishes a list of fifty-four murders known to have been committed in the month of January, in the United States—five of them in New York city.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Carpenter, the artist, disputes the statement of Mr. C. H. Brainard, that Mr. Stanton was dissatisfied with his (Carpenter's) picture of the Emancipation Proclamation, and publishes a letter, wherein Mr. Stanton says: "The work is, in every respect that I am capable of judging, entirely satisfactory, and worthy of national admiration, as a fitting commemoration of Mr. Lincoln's great deed."

Senator Nye carries in his pocket-book a note from the late President Lincoln, written on a piece of the fly-leaf of a book, which runs as follows: "Dear General—Come up to night and swap jokes. LINCOLN."

An ex-army officer in Indiana tells a story of an acquaintance, who, having removed from his native town when a young man, went back there for his wife. She lived but a short time, and the bereaved husband put up a tombstone to her, soon "went to be an angel." Again he returned to his native village, and this time he brought back with him a charming widow, one he married, and the other he kept on hand as a wife in case Providence should make him a widower for the third time.

London reeks with scandal. Besides the gossip over the ruin of the young Duke of Hamilton, who, in one year after arriving at his majority, had squandered, in the society of broken-down turfmen and the most ordinary among the "unco guid," all the other of his princely fortune, and reared a crop of debts amounting to £100,000, to pay which his private effects were recently sold under the hammer; the downfall, by a like course of dissipation, of the Earl of Jersey, who, although but twenty-five years of age, has already squandered a fortune of £99,000 sterling a year, and who must very shortly take his place with his fellow peers the Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Westmoreland and the Lord Derby, a solitary young buck who, by their profligacy, have become bankrupt—we may be crowning numerous high offenses the prospective king, the eldest born of Queen Victoria, figures in the London papers as Monsieur de Mordant vs. Mordant. The telegraph says little of this, but the next steamer will bring, no doubt, to the English press have no partiality for the heir apparent.

UTAH advices agree that the Mormons are becoming alarmed at the prospect of having the present, and even more stringent, federal laws enforced. Brigham Young, with certain followers, it is rumored, are going down below the Rio Colorado soon on an exploring expedition. Some say it is his final retirement in contemplative life, where he has been quietly preparing for it a year or so, deeding houses and properly to such of his concubines as he is going to abandon—that he will doom certain apostles and Gentiles to the knife before he goes, the sentence not to be executed, however, until he gets a good way off, so that the blood can in nowise attach to his skirts; that he will instruct Lot Smith, the "Destroying Angel" of Arizona, gathering such of the faithful as will unto it, destroying of course what they can't carry away, and making his son Brigham to succeed him as President, his sons John and Joseph to be young Brig's Councilors, and then give up the ghost, submitting only to death, the self-willed little autocrat. This view of the future is questioned, however; and probably the only thing that can be said for a certainty is that the "Saints," especially the leading ones, begin to understand that they are actually getting into hot water.

THE strong minded who just now are "going for" the ballot, are having a lively time in New York. Only a few days ago a little incident occurred showing this peculiar and unwomanly zeal. A petite lady, though big in spirit, delivered a lecture on Charlotte Bronte, in an up-town hall, before a fashionable audience. She had read her paper before in the presence of a company including some of the most prominent woman-suffrage advocates, and had scandalized the latter by declaring, in a mild way, against their movement, and proclaiming, in a burst of real eloquence, that "here was a "woman who had nobly achieved success without the ballot." This last sentence was too much; and when she had concluded, a bevy of the strongest-minded waited upon her, and asked that she would erase the obnoxious words. The lady, although astonished at their peculiar earnestness, quickly refused to unsay what she had said, or to keep unsaid what she desired to say from the platform. And then the signal for war was given. The lady's new notes attended the lecture in force, and undertook to hiss her down when she came to the obnoxious passage, but failed. Her friends, who understood the game, being present in force and drowned the hisses in applause.

WITHIN the last two months six hundred thousand dollars worth of books, good, bad and indifferent, have been imported from Europe; and this is why book-publishing here is so wretchedly dull, say many of the book people. Some of the New York trade would like to see this stopped; but how to prevent it is the question. The attention of the whole trade just now is directed fully as much at Congress as at book making. The proposal to abolish the present tariff of twenty-five per cent. on the face of the invoice, and put in its place twenty-five cents a pound weight is extensively discussed; and the small importers, to whose injury this would work, seriously talk of sending a delegate to Washington to try and "influence" Congress, and keep the proposition from becoming law.

GRACE GREENWOOD tells a good story of the effect once produced by the eloquence of Senator NYE, Rhetorical, "heaven-born statesman," by telling texts. Though what is vulgarly called a stump speech, it had so much the character of (pulpit) oratory, that one auditor, at least, was profoundly affected. A nice, susceptible old lady, among the tears from her eyes, said, addressing some callous politicians about her: "I don't know what you may think, but I believe that man knows something about vital piety."

[The story is good but old, it having been current in Nye's country district twenty years ago.]

THE New York *Nation*, usually so accurate and fastidious in the use of language as to be a model for youthful writers, speaks editorially this week of Congress "*manufacturing* new railroads, and thinks there were people who paid off in paper during the war debts contracted in gold, and "saved forty, fifty, or a hundred per cent. in the process." Mr. MILLER, of the "O. U.'s made about such a saving as that; but we believe the greenback was never quite worthless. The *Nation* also has "When the time comes, if it is *going to come*," and the phrase shows that it is not quite infallible in matters of literary elegance, any more than the hastily made up daily papers.

THE Pope appears to be in advance of the pending decision of the Council upon the question of Papal infallibility. According to the *Tablet* His Holiness has, within the last few days, approved and enriched with indulgences a prayer for the Greek schismatics, wherein the following words are worthy of note: "O Mary Immaculate Virgin, we beseech thee to be pleased to entreat the Divine Spirit in favor of our erring brethren, that enlightened by his quickening grace, they may return to the Catholic Church, *under the infallible authority of its chief Pastor, the Roman Pontiff.*"

SAYS the Philadelphia *Ledger*: We want our readers and the public to remember that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company shows by its last annual report that it earned in the year 1869, on gross traffic, $17,250,814, at an expense of $12,505,267—giving as net profits $5,047,541. This result, it should be remembered, was against a most unwarranted opposition on the part of the New York roads, which reduced freight charges far below a paying profit, an experiment not likely to be repeated very soon.

THE STEEL QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The British steel makers and importers having been fairly driven from the field of controversy by the exposure of their fraudulent practices in evading the proper duties upon steel, have rallied to their assistance the free trade paper published in Boston, known as the *Reform League*. This new assailant of our young but vigorous American industry, writes much better than either of his employers, and would no doubt write still better, if he was more accurately informed in regard to the details of his subject.

There is some fairness in our new antagonist, however. He avoids the whole question of fraudulent importation, but exhumes the memorial of the American steel-makers to Congress in 1860, which he publishes in full, with comments of his own, covering four entire pages of his paper. He even goes so far as to admit that "*some qualities of American steel, we have no doubt, are excellent. In others they are inferior to the English make. Were it not so, they would have the whole trade.*"

We might afford to let our memorial and its commentary go to the readers of the *Reform League* without notice on our part, but for some gross errors of fact, which the editor has fallen into, and which his friends, the English steel makers had not the wit or the fairness to correct. We will do it for them, so that the advocate of the English steel interest may better understand the cause of his clients. He charges that the American steel makers are waging a desperate war upon the public welfare, and seeking to control a monopoly of an article of prime necessity. On the contrary, we are at war with a bloated monopoly—a foreign monopoly, rich and unscrupulous, which has fought against fair competition for the steel manufacture into this country in all possible ways, and has not hesitated to resort to the most dishonest practices in the attempt to the purposes of our Government in encouraging the production of American steel from native iron. The exorbitant duty of which they complain, has resulted in the establishment of an American competition, which has given to the consumers cheaper steel, both foreign and domestic, than they have ever obtained before, even under the old free trade tariff of twelve per cent. *ad valorem*. We affirm that best cast steel, both English and American, is *now sold* in all our principal markets three cents per pound lower to gold than it was sold before the war, when the duty was at the lowest point ever known since cast steel was first imported from England. How then can our antagonists, the English steel makers, and their allies, certain illiberal manufacturers of steel goods who don't appear to understand their own interests, dare to reproach us with oppressing the American consumer of steel? No greater boon could be destowed upon this latter class, than has resulted from the successful introduction of the steel manufacture into the United States; and no greater misfortune could be inflicted upon the country, and upon the producers of steel goods, than the destruction of an interest, already twice as great as that of imported steel.

To show the magnitude of the oppression under which these unhappy foreign manufacturers labor, we give a single instance of an attempt at the fraudulent entry of steel in Boston. A large lot of shovel steel was entered for duty as common steel at the lowest rate, but the honest appraiser, suspecting that the quality was better than represented by the invoice, sent for an expert to examine it. Upon trial it was found to be a fine quality of cast steel, and the entry was rejected, and the duties levied in accordance with its true value; and moreover the duty assessed was paid without question the importer no doubt being glad to escape the seizure and confiscation of his property. For particulars inquire at the Boston Custom House.

One word now as to the Pittsburgh steel makers, who are described as "the most remarkable people in the world, starting business in shanties, which rapidly grow into imposing structures of brick and mortar, filled with busy and cheerful workmen all employed at an *immense loss*." The worthy editor of the *Reform League* will never get right if he goes on in this reckless way about Pittsburgh. Does he know where Pittsburgh is, and what sort of people live there? Let me inform him that Pittsburgh is situated at the head of the navigation of the Mississippi Valley, in the midst of great fields of coal and iron, and had by the celebrated Petroleum Center of the world; that it is the Birmingham of America, and filled with busy and thrifty population; that it will bear comparison with the Hub itself for solid and substantial wealth; and that its manufacturing interests are not commenced in the shanties, but are started with ample capital and directed by experienced and clear headed men, who are connected with small profits but who do not profess to do business at a loss. As long ago as 1845 our city was visited by a fire, which in a few hours destroyed no less than five millions of property. Not a single failure followed this fearful calamity. Is there another community in the country where the same result could occur?

And as to the manufacture of cast steel in this country, Pittsburgh has the honor of achieving the first *assured success*, and is now manufacturing and selling to all parts of the United States more steel than the entire importation into the United States, all of which has been accomplished in less than twelve years. This is our answer to the fancy sketch of the *Reform League*. The picture is a libel on the caricature, and not the work of a true artist.

Mr. Editor, I would gladly quote at length from the "*Reform League*" but I dare not trespass so far upon your space. Many of its statements will surprise the steel consumers as much as the steel makers. For instance, it says: "One maker will excel for one use, and another for another; that for certain kinds of tools and machinery the American manufacturer of steel will not have the domestic article at any price; that a consumer here does not buy English steel indiscriminately, but buys of one maker for one kind of work and another for another, &c," all of which we pronounce to be sheer nonsense. The fact is, all the steel makers both English and American, claim to make the various kinds of steel equally well, except, perhaps, in heavy castings of steel, which are confined to those who are prepared for the business. A few old fogy manufacturers still adhere to their own peculiar brand, or trade brand, not because it is really any better, but from prejudice or the force of habit. A difference in quality exists as much in foreign as in domestic steel, but it is the price in most cases that determines the purchase, notwithstanding the empty boast of superiority, by our English competitors.

The changes are rung on the term *raw steel*; and that in New England 89,915,000 are invested, and 11,415 men consume in work 6,539 tons annually. Everything these men make is *raw* in the hands of the consumers. Raw steel is steel on which as well talk of *raw* cloth, or yarn, or paper, or anything else. There is no such thing as *raw steel*. It is a misnomer and is only used for selfish interested ends. It is not true that we seek to retain the duty to enlarge our profits. It is to protect labor, to enable us to give fair wages to our workmen. The whole subject is in a nut shell. It is a question of protection to home industry. Without that there can be no nation of prosperity, and where that is the case there can be no individual success, of a permanent character, in any of the industrial employments of the people. English steel makers and their allies, the free traders, will not, of course, appreciate our view of the subject; but notwithstanding all their professions of love for the people and their interests, we have an abiding faith in the good sense of Congress, that it will not consent to strike down this important American industry in the dawn of its existence, while the young Hercules, yet in his cradle, is in the very act of strangling the serpent of foreign competition, whose foul breath has poisoned the atmosphere of our Custom Houses, and would delude the people with its captivating cry of Free Trade, into a false and fatal security.

AMERICAN STEEL MANUFACTURER.

GEN. FITZ JOHN PORTER.

A Defense of his Conduct at Bull Run by an Ardent Friend.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Is it not time now that a calm revision be made of any judgment or opinion formed in the heat or anxiety of the terrible war of the rebellion? If, perchance, any such judgment was made innocent man—a man who in all else, save the one fault involved, had won a noble name for loyalty and valor, and who claims that he can now prove what he always maintained—that he acted not only loyally but wisely,—would it not be honorable to the nation now to give him a new hearing? Where can be the peril? If the new evidence heard now in a calmer hour should leave the verdict unchanged, then would justice be all the more strongly maintained. But if, as may be the case, and is the firm belief of a public, authorized one, fairly decide that—If the new evidence should show that a mistake was made, that a wrong judgment was given, and an opinion sentence reversed that was more than death to a gallant, honorable man? Would not the country rejoice if it could see fairly rescued from unmerited shame a name that up to a certain day, for on in the war, was among the very foremost on our army roll, as the name of a true patriot and of a brave and able soldier and commander? Where is the peril of a new hearing of fresh evidence, now that time has been allowed to get such evidence and to become calm enough to hear it fairly?

Public opinion, very much guided by the press, may possibly cry down the proposal. But would that be right? Will the nation do such a wrong thing as to refuse to hear what a man has to say in his own behalf, *who, if wronged in this, has been fearfully wronged?* Surely not; and as surely, you will, as one of the influential guides of public opinion, not deny any man a fair hearing.

That verdict was a sore error. The nation was then most naturally under fearful excitement. The peril of the army was only a little less at the time of the trial than it had been at the time of the supposed crime. The government and the War Department of it, were harassed by defeats, and by repeated failures to find the right man to put into the chief command. Such emergencies may forbid any delay in military trials, but they do not furnish the calmness of judicial discretion. If that sentence was correct, the offender ought to have been shot the hour he was convicted. He was not shot; thank God for that! *For he was an entirely innocent man;* and had he been shot the nation would, before this, have had the agony to discover that in an irreparable wrong had been done. Gen. Porter is alive to feel the dishonor, and to ask his country, which he so long served bravely, to hear him make his defense, with new testimony not then to be had, and with the calm and just attention which till now has hardly been possible. Or is it alas! impossible yet?

And what do grave, wise, loyal men say about this? Senators Wilson and Sherman demand the investigation as mere justice. The Government listens to the proposal for the same reason, because there is good ground for it. The officers who fought through the war, as the writer is assured by some of them, have long since come to see that the verdict was an error. The best reviews of the history of the war, from pens that once were hostile to Gen. Porter, declare him innocent and upright. Proof indisputable is ready that Gen. Pope was entirely mistaken in his opinions as to the positions and forces of the foe; and that Gen. Porter, while carrying out obediently the orders of his superior officer, discovered the true facts, and by prudent rearrangement of his own command, saved the rest of the army from utter destruction. This he is prepared to prove before a commission of such high officers as the Government may appoint. As to General Porter's being capable of the black crime of sacrificing his country's cause and the lives of thousands of men to a personal prejudice against General Pope, it is as impossible as that the best citizen of Pittsburgh to-day should, before the sun sets, be guilty of such base deed of utter infamy. The writer has known General Porter intimately well for many years, before the war, and during and since the war. He is an honorable and upright and godly man. His loyalty was of that prompt and intense kind that never knew a moment's hesitation in duty, and action from it, nor a whisper of rebellion. Among his most intimate friends at West Point were some Southern cadets, who proved false to duty when the hour and the trial came. I can well forget him quickly and even sternly he repelled the mention of their friendship when the war came. "They were my friends once; they are now my *country's* enemies, and so they are my enemies." No man in or out of the army took up the nation's cause more promptly or clung to it more resolutely or heartily. Not even the wrong sentence produced any change in his entire devotion to his country. The sense of injustice never provoked any hostility to the cause for which Gen. P. had fought.

That he was in heart and purpose entirely free from any evil intent in the movements condemned as traitorous, I am perfectly sure. I was much with him within the ten days that followed the battle of Antietam. The rumors of Gen. Pope's charges against him had got into the papers and became then the topic of our every conversation. The evening after Gen. Pope had made such complaints in explanation of his defeat, Gen. Porter had brought an interview with Gen. Pope, and had received the amplest assurances that his explanations were satisfactory, and the matter was regarded by both Generals as settled. After this Gen. Porter was sent by the President and Secretary of War with Gen. McClellan, to drive the rebel army out of Maryland. A week after this had been done, when the fear, or even the thought of any further investigation had entirely gone from the public mind, and in very full detail the whole story about the orders sent and his writings, purposes and efforts in carrying out those orders in their true spirit. There was not in the man's words or manner the shadow even of any consciousness of such guilt as was afterwards charged. Had there been any such shadow of fear in the man's mind as to his own part or purpose, it could not have hidden itself in that full, confidential conference. My previous confidence that he could not be guilty of any such crime, became the assured conviction that if General Porter had done the true and obedient part of a brave, discreet commander, he was an honest lover of his country.

Can not that country afford to listen for a little time now to one whom she so long trusted and honored, and who says that his grievous burden—laid upon him by her mistake in days of excitement and peril—is that she has declared him unworthy of her trust?

J. B. K.

February 22.

The extraordinary rapidity with which the late Russian loan was taken up in Europe—some $300,000,000 being offered in excess of the amount required—testifies less, probably, to ultra confidence in Russian institutions than to the prodigiousness of the hoard amongst the investing class in the principal countries.

PETERSON'S
Ointment
WILL CURE
Corns and Bunions.
PRICE 50 CTS. SENT BY MAIL 60 CTS.
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DR. SARGENT'S
BACKACHE PILLS
HAVE BECOME SO POPULAR.

1st—They are certain and speedy in their action, relieving the Kidneys at once from all obstructions, and restoring the Organs at once to their natural healthy functions.

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Therefore—We can recommend them with the greatest confidence for all diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder, &c.

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Genuine Preparations,
From the Celebrated House of
PETER SQUIRE, London.
Granular Effervescent Bi-Carb. Potassa, Bromide Potassa, Iodide Potassa, Citrate Iron and Quinine, Bromide Ammonium Carb, Lithia, Vichy Salt, Kissengen Salt, Cit. Magnesia, Seidlitz Powders, &c.--To protect Physicians and the Public from spurious articles of this character, purporting to be "direct importations"--all bottles of the genuine will in future bear a strap label over the cork, with the address and fac-simile signature of the manufacturer, P. SQUIRE; and on the side his trade mark, and also address of the Importer and Sole Agent,
SIMON JOHNSTON,
Cor. Smithfield St. and Fourth Ave.

P. S.--A Fresh Supply of Squire's True Glycerine Soap, Sarg's Vienna Soap, Price's Glycerine Soap, Astringent Red Gum Lozenges, and Muriate of Ammonia Lozenges. These Lozenges are meeting with great success in England, in cases of Relaxed Sore Throat, Bronchitis, etc. Just received.
sthth

FROM TENNESSEE.

The Country About Tullahoma—Western Men Pouring In—Abundance of Timber, Minerals and Productive Soil —Machines Wanted, etc.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., February 18, 1870.

Your readers overwhelm me with letters. Northern men are pouring in here in an increasing stream. They buy residence and without purchasing; or, at least, with the intention of returning. Land is so cheap, and of such great variety; timber so abundant; railroad facilities equal to those of any country in Pennsylvania, with few exceptions; the best markets West of the Allegheny; the best water, the best fruit, and best whisky and apple jack; the highest location East of the Rocky Mountains; minerals abundant, gypsum lying along the road; limestone abundant and convenient. What

DELIGHTFUL WEATHER

We enjoyed the past three weeks! Here is paradise in spring, autumn and summer. In the two former seasons the days are longer than with you; in summer shorter, and then cooler. Spring and fall are delicious. Yes, we do plough all winter; make rails, repair fences, build stables, pens, etc.; clean, ditch,—in fact, all kinds of hard work are done in the winter. Every improved farm within three miles of town, save three or four, are in the hands of Yankees, mostly from Western Pennsylvania.

MECHANICS WANTED.

Oh, we want a foundry and machine shop of all things. Cubbison, of New Castle, is coming with machinery for a steam grist mill. There is a fortune for any one who will bring a double saw mill. I will engage to keep one running myself three months, and here are thousands of acres waiting of poplar, oak, chestnut and oak. We want carpenters, cabinet makers, blacksmiths, brick makers and some more good farmers.

INCREASING VALUE OF LANDS.

Lands have doubled in value the past year. I would not take the best farm west of the Mississippi with the fickle climate, malarious air, long winters, and nothing for your farm products, as must certainly be the case there—I would not take one gratis and live there the next ten years. Take the map and look at this location: see how the waters run, the distance from the Atlantic and the gulf coast; the great cotton region, within twenty days' travel, affording an ever-increasing market for live stock, lumber, breadstuffs, and our abundant minerals.

HOW THE NATIVES EXIST

Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

(Successors to S. Jones & Co.)

COR. FOURTH AND WOOD STS.

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

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GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS

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Interest Allowed on Deposits.

MONEY LOANED ON GOVERNMENT BONDS AT LOWEST MARKET RATES.

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JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

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BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

City of Pittsburgh Seven Per Cent.

Water Main Extension Bonds,

EXEMPT FROM STATE, COUNTY AND CITY TAXATION.

For sale at Par and Accrued Interest from October 1st

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 23, 1870.

The easy condition in local monetary affairs continues. Our leading manufacturing and mercantile interests are well supplied with money, and there is no large speculative movement afloat to endanger or disturb the financial equanimity. All first class paper can be negotiated at the banks at the customary rates of these institutions. There is a very light supply of acceptable paper on the street any more, and what is offered is hard to piece except at extravagant rates.

—The weakness in the gold premium to-day did not so materially affect the price of bonds. Gold dropped to 117¼ at one time during the day, and the decline on bonds from the opening quotation was only ¼ to ¾. It is vain to speculate upon the immediate course of the market, as there are many collateral causes which are likely to arise within the next sixty days that might make a very material change in the premium.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close
U. S. Bonds '81	117¾	117¾	
U. S. Bonds '62	115½	115½	115
U. S. Bonds '64	114½	114½	114
U. S. Bonds '65	114¼	114¼	114
U. S. Bonds, new, '65	113½	113½	113
U. S. Bonds '67	113½	113½	113½
U. S. Bonds '68	113½	113½	113½
10-40s	112½	112½	¼
Gold	117¾	117¾	¼

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Feb. 21.	Feb. 22.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	118¼	117¾	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, 1881	117¾	117¾	...	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	115½	115½	...	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	114¾	114¾	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65	114¼	114¼	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, new iss. '65	113½	113½	...	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s '67	113¾	113¾	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	113½	113½	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, 10-40s	112¾	112¾	...	¼
U. S. Currency	113¾	113¾	...	¼

—It is said that Congress will begin the revision of the internal revenue law this week, and several important changes probably will be made. The subject of abolishing the income tax is receiving a great deal of attention from members, and a strong pressure is being brought to bear against it. Many petitions in favor of discontinuing the tax have been presented, it is argued that it grew up purely out of the necessities of the war, and that as it is inquisitorial and obnoxious in its nature, it should be done away with, now that the war is over and the revenues of the government are large enough to do without it. If it is not abrogated it will certainly be modified so as to make it apply to incomes over two or three thousand dollars, so that it will fall only on the rich who can easily pay it. This may seem some of its unpopularity, but its injustice and oppression will remain.

—The New York Railway stock market was barely steady to-day. The fluctuations were light and the closing prices were about up to the advance established within the past fortnight.

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 89 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

February 23, 1870.	10 00	11 00	12 M.	12 30	1 30	3 00	4 00
	A. M.	A. M.	M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
New York Central	197¾	197¾	197	197	197	197¼	
Erie	27	27	26¾	...	...	26¾	
Harlem	145¾	...	...	...	...	146	
Reading	98¾	98¾	98	...	...	97¾	
Michigan Central	131	...	...	...	...	131	
Michigan Southern	88¾	87¾	87½	...	...	87¾	
Illinois Central	142	...	...	...	...	142	
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	101	101	101	...	...	101	
Chicago and Northwestern	72¾	72¾	72	71½	72¾	72¾	
Do preferred	89	89	89	89	89	89	
Rock Island	120¾	119¾	119½	119½	120	120	
St. Paul	...	...	64½	...	...	64½	
St. Paul preferred	...	...	78¾	...	...	78¾	
Toledo and Wabash	...	...	34¾	...	...	34¾	
Toledo and Wabash pref	...	...	71	...	...	71	
Fort Wayne	92	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	
Chicago and Alton	...	...	114	...	...	113	
Ohio and Mississippi	...	...	34¾	...	...	34¾	
Western Union Telegraph	...	...	41¾	...	...	41¾	
Pacific Mail	...	...	43¾	...	...	43¾	
Adams Express	...	...	64	...	...	63½	
Wells, Fargo & Co. Express	...	...	31¾	...	...	31¾	
American M. U. Express	...	...	25¾	...	...	25¾	
United States Express	...	...	82½	...	...	82	
Merchants' Union Express	...	...	28¾	...	...	...	
Gold	118¾	118¼	118¼	117¾	117¾	117¾	

A comparison between yesterday's and today's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Mon.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central	197¾	197¾	1	
Erie	27	28	1	
Harlem	146	146		¼
Reading	98¾	97¾		¼
Michigan Central	132	131		¼
Michigan Southern	88¾	87¾		¼
Illinois Central	142	142		¼
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	101	101		¼
Chicago and Rock Island	72¾	72¾		¼
Do. preferred	89	89		¼
Rock Island	119¾	120	¼	
St. Paul	64¾	64¾		¼
Tol. and Wabash	34¾	34¾		¼
Do. preferred	71	71		¼
Fort Wayne	91¾	91¾		¼
Chicago and Alton	113	113		¼
Ohio and Miss	34¾	34¾		¼
Western U. Tel	41¾	41¾		¼
Pacific Mail	43¾	43¾		¼
Adams Express	63½	63½		¼
Wells, Fargo & Co	31¾	31¾		¼
American M. U.	25¾	25¾		¼
U. S. Express	82½	82		½
Merch. U. Ex	28¾	28¾		¼

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building, dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 23, 1870.

BUSINESS—The markets remain dull with a restricted demand for the leading articles. We have nothing that is really new or important to communicate to our readers. The weather has moderated very materially. The heavy ice in the Allegheny has prevented boats from leaving. There were no departures for below yesterday. Trade in the slack-water was active, that stream beingclear of ice.

APPLES—The demand is improving for certain descriptions and prices are advancing: good keeping apples find ready purchasers at $2@3 50@3 00 ₩ bbl; good to prime mixed lots sells at $2@2 50@3 00 ₩ bbl.

APPLE BUTTER—Dull: the supply exceeds the demand; sales range from 50@55 ₩ gallon of 10 lbs; prices appeared weak.

BUTTER—The demand continues to increase, particularly for the best roll. We can report sales at 35@35c ₩ lb: good to prime 25@28c, and common lots at 20@25c ₩ lb.

BROOMS—Are in fair demand. The current rates from store are for No. 2 $1 75 ₩ dozen; No. 3 $1 50; No. 4 $5; No. 5 $5 50, and carpet brooms $6@6 50 ₩ doz.

CANNON OIL—The market continues quiet with unchanged prices. We were reported sales in a jobbing way at 25@26c for standard brands.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Dull; the supply being large and the demand limited; it has been offered freely at $3 00 ₩ cwt.

LARD OIL—The market is steady with a good trade demand and a fair inquiry for export. Ennt. We can report sales of extra No. 1 at $1 38@1 40; No. 2 at 85@90c ₩ gall.

CHEESE—The market remains firm but unchanged, with light receipts. We are reported sales at the following: Goshen New York, 19@19½c; Ohio 16 18½@18c; Factory Ohio 17½@18c; Eastern 18½@18½c; Western Reserve 17c; Sweitzer 20c; Limburger 17c.

CRANBERRIES—The market is firmer. We are reported sales of Eastern cultivated at $17 @18 ₩ bbl.

BEANS—Market very dull. Sales small navy at $2 25@2 30; mixed lots $2@2 15 ₩ bush.

DRESSED HOGS—Dull. We can report small sales at 7¾ 7¾@8 00 ₩ cwt. There was very little inquiry.

DRIED FRUIT—The market remains void of any animation, and the reductions in prices do not attract the attention of buyers to any extent. The receipts are very light. Small lots of extra choice bright dried apples at 8c; prime to choice 7@7½c; choice dried peaches 10@10½c; quarters 9@9½c. Pitted cherries 28@29c. Blackberries 15c 16c.

CORN MEAL—The market is nearly bare of kiln dried. Prices are firm at $1 10 ₩ bush; common is unchanged and offering at $1 00 ₩ bush.

WHISKY—The market remains quiet without a single change to report. Sales of City Rectified were made at, common $1 00; Proof $1 10, Highwines are held at 97@$1 00 ₩ gallon.

EGGS—The demand is improving; holders are generally asking 24@25c ₩ dozen. The stock on the market is light.

GREEN APPLES—The market was steady with an improved demand for coffees, although prices are unchanged, dealers generally have laid in a large stock of groceries for the spring and summer trade. Most of them are anticipating a large run of trade. New Orleans molasses is fully as cheap here as in New Orleans. The current rates yesterday were as follows:

COFFEE—Rio 19c; good 21c; prime 22c; choice 23c; fancy 24c ₩ lb.

SUGARS—New Orleans fair at 11¾c; prime 12¼c; choice 13¼c ₩ lb.

REFINED SUGARS—Hards, 15c; A coffee, 14½c; B coffee 14c; extra C 13½c; C yellow 13½c ₩ lb.

SYRUPS—Golden 60c; Loverings 75c; silver drips 80c; perfection 90c ₩ gal.

RICE—Sales North Carolina at 7¼@8c ₩ lb, S. A. Porto—6@6½c.

STARCH—Pearl 6½c; silver gloss 11¼c; corn 12c ₩ lb.

LEAD—Sales of pig at 10½c; shot $2 75 ₩ bag.

FLOUR—The market was devoid of animation; buyers content themselves with purchasing merely sufficient to meet their current wants; prices have undergone no change; there is neither speculative nor export inquiry; good qualities are dull and not wanted. The store rates for western flours were: spring wheat $5 50@6 00; winter wheat $5 75@6 25 ₩ bbl. Mill prices are as follows: White Cliff, in barrels, $8 00; in sacks, $7 75; Miami, in barrels, $7 75; in sacks, $7 40; Eclipse, $8 in barrels, and $7 50 in sacks; Three Star green brand, in barrels, $7 40; fancy pastry flour, in sacks, $7 25; Two Star blue brand, in barrels, $6 70; double extra family, in sacks, $6 40; Star red brand, in barrels, $5; extra family, in sacks, $5 70; Windfred Mills extra, in barrels, $4 75; Monitor Mills, in barrels, $5 00; red wheat family flour, in sacks, $5 25.

RYE FLOUR—Is quoted at $5 00@5 50, as to quality.

HOMINY—Dull. The market is overstocked. We have sales in a small way at $5 75@6 ₩ bbl.

PROVISIONS—Large operators report an improved demand for bacon, with fair transactions, buyers being more numerous and more inclined to operate. The stock on hand is ample to meet any reasonable demand. The current prices are as follows: Shoulders, plain, 10½c; sugar cured 11c; sides, ribbed, 13½c; clear do 13½c; hams, sugar cured, 18@18½c; breakfast bacon, clear, 18c.

DRIED BEEF—Sales sugar cured at 19½c.

LARD—Sales of leaf in tierces at 16c; in bbls 16½c; in kegs 18c, and buckets 18c.

BEEF TONGUES—Sales were made at $8 50 ₩ dozen.

PIG TONGUES—Are selling at $1 ₩ dozen.

HAM SAUSAGE—Sales at 13½c ₩ lb.

ASHES—The market continues well supplied. Prices, however, are unsettled to quote correctly. We omit figures.

MAPLE SYRUP—Is selling in a small way at $2 00 ₩ gallon.

MAPLE SUGAR—Can be purchased at 12½@13c ₩ pound.

POTATOES—Dull, the supply being largely in excess of the demand. We note regular sales at 45@50c ₩ bush.

HAY—The receipts of baled still continue in excess of the demand, and much of the arrivals are being stored. Prices continue weak with a downward tendency. Prime timothy is held at $17@18; sales from wagon at $15@22 ₩ ton.

CIDER—Market very dull, the supply being largely in excess of the demand. We can report sales at $5@6@7 ₩ bbl, as to size and condition.

TALLOW—We can report sales of city rendered at 9½c; rough 6@6½c ₩ lb. Market inactive.

STRAW—Dull and the supply exceeds the demand; sales of rye at $10 ₩ ton, and oats at $10@13.

SEEDS—Are in fair demand, particularly clover seed, and holders firm at $5 50 ₩ bu from store, and $5 00@5 25 on the track. Timothy seed dull, but held at $3 50@5 00. Flax seed $2 10 @2 15 ₩ bush.

HIDES—Market well supplied, with regular sales at 8@8½c ₩ lb.

SOUR KROUT—Is very dull; prices nominal at $7 @7 50 ₩ bbl.

FEAS—Dull at $2 50 ₩ bush.

SEEDS—Sales of Tennessee prime quality at 6½@6½c ₩ lb.

GRAIN—The demand for grain continues limited, the inquiry being confined altogether to the wants of the home market. Speculation has not been indulged in for some time, prices being considered too uncertain, wheat being unquestionably the leading article. The rates are as follows: Good No. 1 red winter $1 10@1 14; prime white $1 15@1 25; amber $1 15@1 25 ₩ bush. Corn—Earl unchanged, with sales at 75@75c from depot and on wharf, and 78@80c from store. Rye very dull, but not quoted lower; we quote nominally at $1 35c, although holders generally want 90c. Oats are steady but not active; dealers pay 70@72½c on the wharf and on track; the selling rates from store are 75@80c. Barley dull; prices very irregular, with but little doing; spring is quoted at 90@95c; fall at $1 00@1 05 ₩ bush.

FISH—In good demand with an ample stock on hand, sufficient for the times. The current rates are: No. 1 Lake Herring $20 a bbl; No 1 Bay $28; No. 2 shore $23; No. 3 large, $18; No. 3 medium $16; Salmon trout $18; No. 1 shore $22; No. 2 Herring—Sales Labrador, split, $9 50; Portland round, $8 50. Codfish—Large $6 50; medium $5 50 ₩ bbl.

MILL FEED—In fair demand. Sales bran at $1 40 ₩ bush; fine middlings at 70@75c; coarse $1 00@1 10 ₩ cwt with a fair supply in the market.

POULTRY—The receipts are light, the market being bare. The following prices would be readily paid for a good article: dressed chickens 10@10c; turkeys 18@20c ₩ lb.

COUPERAGE—Sales of pails $2 35 ₩ nest; Tubs—No. 1 $11 00; No. 2 $9 50 and No. 3 $8 50 ₩ doz.

PITTSBURGH OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 24, 1870. }

BUSINESS—The oil market yesterday was dull, exhibiting no change worthy of special mention. A wide difference still continues between buyers and sellers, in fact almost prohibitory. We have not a single transaction to report in crude for any delivery.

CRUDE—In the absence of sales we can only furnish the nominal rates, as follows: Spot, or sellers' option, 40 to 46 gravity, is offered at 12½ @12¾c; buyers' option till July 1st offered, 14½c wanted; all year, same option, 15¼@15¾c. The receipts of crude since the 1st of January are largely in excess of last year. The question is what becomes of it?

REFINED—The market is quiet; holders submitted to a decline; the result was 2,500 bbls changed hands at the following rates: 1,000 bbls Philadelphia, 30c, 2500 bbls Ohio do Free at 29½c. These are the lowest figures reported in this market for a long time. Sales of 1,000 bbls Ohio, 30c, 1,250 do, 29½c. Further deliveries are very dull; we quote nominally April offering at 28¾c; April to December 31c.

DISPATCHES.

ANTWERP.—Refined oil opened at 60¾ francs.

TITUSVILLE, February 23.—The market is quiet at $4 35. The following sales were made yesterday:

350	barrels on upper creek at	$4 40
500	"	4 50
1,000	" at Petroleum Center, at	4 60
1,000	"	4 60
500	"	4 60
1,000	" at Rouseville, at	4 63
500	"	4 60
400	"	4 59
1,000	barrels at Titusville, at	4 60
1,000	barrels at McClintock, at	4 60

(By Western Union Telegram.)

PETROLEUM CENTER, PA., February 23.—Market quiet at $4 60.

OIL CITY, February 23.—The market is pretty well frozen up; some sales of small lots at $4 65. Lower Creek—Not much can be had at anything like the quotations; buyers and sellers are united to take $4 65; nominally $4 90 here.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23.—Market—prime light straw to white 28c; standard white 26@26c; crude 19@20c and weak.

SHARPSBURG, PA., February 23.—Market—fair demand at $4 10 to $4 15 at wells, but producers are still holding for higher figures.

PLEASANTVILLE, February 23.—The market was weak at $4.

TITUSVILLE, February 23.—Market quiet at $4 35.

ROUSEVILLE, February 23.—Market firm; offering $4 50@4 63; asking $4 65.

OIL CITY, February 23.—5 15 P. M.—Market quiet but firm.

PARK FARM, February 23.—The market is very quiet; offering at $4 60; asking $4 65. Sale of five cars, seller's option 15 days, at $4 60.

PARKER'S LANDING, February 23, 12 M.—The market is quiet and firm at $4 70. No sales.

(By Pacific and Atlantic Telegram.)

TARR FARM, February 22, 1:00 P. M.—Market very dull; nothing doing; holding at from $4 65 @4 70; offering $4 65; no sales.

PETROLEUM CENTER, February 23, 1:00 P.M.—Market still dull and inactive; crude nominally about $4 60; no sales to-day yet.

NEW YORK, February 22, 12:00 M.—Market dull; prices nominal; crude, spot, 15½@16c; refined 28@29½c.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23.—Market quiet and steady, with more inquiry for February and March, but without change. Quotations: February, 28½c; March, 29c; March and April, 29c; May and June, 29½c.

NEW YORK, February 23, 6 P. M.—The market closed exceedingly dull, with the following transactions: 1,000 bbls, Philadelphia delivery, refined, 28½c; 500 do 28¾c; 500 do 28¾c; 1,000 bbls refined spot 29c. No sales of crude.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23, 5:30 P. M.—Market considerably more active to-day in both early and future deliveries, closing steady and quiet. Purchases—March 28@28¾c; March and September 29c bid; April to September 30c bid; March to December 29½c bid; December 31c asked. Crude 15½@16c asked. Sales 1,000 bbls each April and December at 31c; 4,000 bbls February at 28½c; 1,000 bbls March at 29½c.

Oil Receipts per Ohio and Rail.

Fisher Bros	320	A. B. Mills	30
Liberty Oil Works	240	Forsythe Bros	30
Sunbeam Oil Works	80	J. Speare & Co	90
Star Oil Works	80		
Total			920

Oil Receipts for A. V. R. R.

W Bartle, 156 bbls crude; A B Mills; E H Long, 220 do do to Fisher Bros; J B Barnour, 83 do do to Smith Bros; T Hackett, 50 do do to Sunbeam Oil Works; T Hackett, 240 do do to Liberty Oil Works; E H Long, 80 do do to Shamburg.

Oil Shipped East by P. R. R.

Etchells, Gill and Rolling Co, 335 bbls benzine to A Richards, Philadelphia.

Receipts of Pig Metal, Ingots and Ore, for the Past Twenty-four Hours.

PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD. P. R. R. CO. LESSEE.

Cars.		Cars.
Nimick & Co, metal	7	Hallman & H, m	1
J W Porter, metal	1	Coleman, Rahm & Co, m	1
Bryan & Caughey, m	1	Union Iron Mills, m	3
Reese, Graff & Dull, m	1	Graff, Bennett & Co, m	2
Graff, Bennett & co, m	4	Loomis & Colford, m	1
Zug & Co, m	1		
Total			24

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Lyon, Shorb & Co, m	1	J Reamer, m	1
Hallman & H, m	3	Bryan & Caughey, m	1
J Moorhead, m	1		
Total			15

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD.

Jones & L, o	2	Reese, Graff & Dull, o	2
Painter & Bro, ore	2	Graff, Bennett & Co, b	2
Union Mills, o	4		
Total			10

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

McKnight & Co, metal			3

The Wool Market.

The Washington *Reporter* of Wednesday has the following: Nearly all our exchanges announce an unusual briskness in the wool market for the past two or three weeks. In this section a vast amount has been gathered up and shipped, and we learn that the demand still continues. All our local buyers have been very active for the past week. We are told that prices range at 40@45c, according to quality.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, February 23, 1870.

EASTERN EXCHANGE—¼ off buying and par selling.

FLOUR—Quiet at $5 00@5 75 for spring extras.

WHEAT—Quiet and firm at 87@87½c for No. 1, and No. 2 at 81@81½c, closing at 81½@81¾c; this afternoon market dull and unchanged.

CORN—Firm and quiet at 69¾c for No. 2 and 69@69¾c for new; 67@67½c for rejected, closing at 69¾c for No. 2; this afternoon No. 2 dull at 69¾@69¾c.

OATS—Quiet; sales of No. 2 at 38½@38¾c, closing at 38½c.

RYE—More active and steady at 66@66c for No. 2.

BARLEY—Almost nominal at 90@95c@$1 00.

HIGHWINES—Firm and 1c@2c higher; sales at 93@ 93½c, closing firm at 93@94c; choice shipping sheets.

PROVISIONS—Active. Mess pork dull and easier; sales $8 90 buyer February; $17 50 buyer April, closing nominal at $18 10 cash. Lard is lower; closing quiet at 15½c. Hams quiet; were 16@16½c; green 13½c loose. Meats brisk and steady; short ribs 13¾c buyer; dry salted shoulders 10½c.

DRESSED HOGS—Active at $10@11, closing at $10 25 dividing on 200.

LIVE HOGS—Dull at $8 00@8 50 for fair to extra prime.

CATTLE—Dull at $4 50@5 25 for fair to good butchers' Steers; $6 00@7 25 for good to choice shipping steers.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, February 23.—Flour unchanged and dull; family $5 25@5 50. Wheat dull at $1 06@1 09, the latter for selected lots; bulk of receipts of poor, which was offered at 75@76c, whilst the other grades sell at 88@90c; the great bulk of the coming in is more or less damaged. Oats steady at 52@53c. Rye dull at 85@86c. Barley dull at 1 00@1 20. Corn dull and prices lower; middling 26@26½c. Tobacco firm and unchanged. Whisky firm and in good demand at 96c bulk, and 99c@$1 00 in barrels. Provisions—Mess pork quiet at $17 50 for standard city brands, but little doing; prime mess for city at 15½c for shoulders; 16c, 16½c and 18c for clear rib and clear sides, but demand light. Bacon firm but quiet; shoulders 12½@12¾c; sides 16@16c for clear rib and clear; sugar cured shoulders 13@13c. Lard firm but quiet; steam 14½c; kettle 15½c. Butter scarce and firm at 30@35c. Eggs 19@20c and in demand. Live poultry at 4¼ and fair jobbing demand. Lard oil $1 75@1 80 for winter. Petroleum 30@31c for refined. Groceries unchanged and quiet. Gold 117¾ buying. Exchange dull at ½@ ¾ discount. Money market easy at 8@10 ₩ cent.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, February 23.—Cotton quiet; middling 20c. Flour quiet; extra family $5. Grain quiet; red and white wheat $1 15; corn 65c; oats 53c; all sacked. Provisions—demand only fair; mess pork $17 50. Bacon—shoulders 12½c; clear rib 16½c; clear sides 16½c. Bulk—shoulders 11½c; clear rib 14½c; clear sides 15½c. Lard—leaf 15c. Hams—sugar cured 19 @19½c. Whisky—sales 96c@$1 00. Coffee—Rio 19@ 20c; fair to prime 21@23c. Sugar—demand fair; A 11½c; extra C 11c; yellow C 10½c; coffee 11½c. Molasses—fair demand; prime 75c; choice 80c; fancy 90c. Rice—demand light; Carolina 9@9½c; Louisiana 8½c. Hay—prime 25c. Cheese—demand fair; prime 17c; choice 18c. Butter—demand fair; prime 30c; choice 35c. Corn meal—demand fair; 90c@$1 00. Bagging—demand fair; 22@23c. Bale rope—demand fair; 10½c. Nails—demand fair; $4 25. Lead—demand fair; 11c. Whisky quiet at 96c@$1 00.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23.—Flour dull; fancy $5 50@7 00; all other grades unchanged. Wheat improved demand; Pennsylvania red $1 23@1 26. Rye unchanged. Corn steady; new yellow 70@72c. Oats in fair demand. Petroleum quiet; crude 15c; refined 28½@29c. Provisions dull. Mess pork $18 00@ 18 50. Whisky dull at 99c@$1.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, February 22.—Flour in demand and a shade better. Wheat dull; No. 1 white Michigan held at 98c; No. 2 do at 96c; amber Michigan held at 97c; No. 2 do at 93c; amber Indiana held at 97c; No. 2 do at 93c; No. 2 red winter held at 93c; No. 3 do at 90c; rejected 85c. Corn dull and lower; sales of high mixed at 68c; No. 2 do at 67c; rejected 65c. Oats steady at 50c. Clover seed dull and lower at $6 05.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, February 23.—Flour dull and prices unchanged. Wheat weak; No. 1 at 96c; No. 2 at 93c; receipts 14,000 bushels; shipments 1,000 bushels. Corn dull; receipts 44,425c. Rye steady; No. 1 in store 69@70c. Barley dull and entirely nominal.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

RANDOLPH & SUPPES,

PRODUCE

Commission Merchants,

Receive and sell all kinds of

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

All orders promptly filled at lowest Market Rates.

Star Front, No. 337 Liberty St.,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

HENRY REA, JR.,

285. LIBERTY STREET. 285.

PITTSBURGH, PA.,

PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANT,

For the sale of Apples, Potatoes, Butter, Eggs, Dried Fruit and Country Produce.

NEWS DEALERS.

W. G. ANDERSON,

FRANKSTOWN ROAD, NEAR THE GREENSBURG TURNPIKE, EAST LIBERTY.

Keeps constantly on hand a Large Assortment of

CIGARS, OF THE VERY BEST BRANDS.

SNUFF, TOBACCO, SNUFF, &c.

Also, ALL THE LATE PERIODICALS OF THE DAY.

☞ Orders by THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL received and promptly attended to.

PRIME

ORANGES AND LEMONS

Received per Vessel, at Philadelphia, Feb. 16th,

800 boxes Messina Oranges;

200 boxes Messina Lemons.

Choice and Fresh Fruit

Will be received per Rail this week and for sale by

Reymer & Bros.,

WHOLESALE CONFECTIONERS AND DEALERS IN FOREIGN FRUITS.

NOS. 126, AND 128 WOOD STREET.

JOHN H. STEWART.....BOBT. H. PATTERSON.

ROBT. H. PATTERSON & CO.,

Livery, Sale and Commission Stables,

COR. SEVENTH AVENUE AND LIBERTY ST PITTSBURGH, PA.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 117¾@117¾.

NEW YORK, February 23—P. M.

FOUND THEIR LEVEL AT LAST.

To-day marked an important era in the national credit. The 1881 bonds, or the long sixes, sold at 117¾@118, at the same time gold was at these figures, thus reaching par in gold. The 1881 bonds were among the first issued after the breaking out of the rebellion, and the money realized from the sale of these bonds equipped the first army put into the field, and also enabled the Government to raise an impromptu navy to at least make a show of blockading Southern ports. The decline in gold to-day to the lowest point since September 22, 1862, was one of the prominent features of Wall street. In the gold room to-day it was a most difficult matter to find a single bull, and indications were certainly in favor of another popular stampede to sell gold short. The great demand in Europe for American securities seems the basis for this strong bear feeling in the gold market

MONEY.

Money easy at 4@6 ₩ cent.

STERLING

Dull at 108¾@108¾.

GOLD

Lower; opened at 118¾, touched 118¾ and 117¾, and closed at 117¾@117¾. The Government sold all bid for, viz: $80,000, at 117 99-100@118 29-100. Carrying rates 4@6 ₩ cent. Clearances fifty-four millions. The steamer Calabria, from Liverpool, brought $258,000 in specie.

GOVERNMENTS

Heavy under the decline in gold. Coupons '81 117¾@117¾; do '62 115½@115¾; do '64 114¾@114¾; do '65 114½@114¾; do new 113½@113¾; do '67 113½ @113¾; do 68 113¾@113¾; 10-40s 112½@112¾; Currency 6s 117¾@118.

STATE BONDS

Steady. Missouris 95¾; old Tennessees 82; new 49½; old Virginias 66; new 56½; old North Carolina 55; new 27½.

At the annual election to-day for Directors of Quicksilver Mining Company, the following were elected: Jas. R. Flint, Jas. W. Elwell, Ashael Green, Alfred E. Tilton, Edwin Hoyt, D. Maloney, Ludlow Patton, Jno. M. Tobin, G. S. Trainor, Chas. Mould and Geo. W. Smith.

STOCKS.

The railway market rallied towards the close, and there was a general recovery in prices from the lowest point of the day. The chief features were Lake Shore, Northwestern, Rock Island, New Jersey Central and Vanderbilt stock. The feature of the day's Miscellaneous list Firm in Mariposa preferred and Pacific Mail. Express stocks quiet and steady.

CLOSING PRICES.

Canton 58; Cumberland 30¾; Western Union Telegraph 34½; Quicksilver 14½; Mariposa 9½; do preferred 21; Adams Express 63½; Wells-Fargo 31¾; American 26; United States 82; Pacific Mail 44½; New York Central 97¾; Erie 28; do preferred 48; Harlem 146; do preferred 126; Hudson River 98; Reading 97¾; Michigan Central 132; Lake Shore 88½; Illinois Central 142½; Pittsburgh 101; Northwestern 72¾; do preferred 89; Rock Island 120; St. Paul 64¾; do preferred 78¾; Wabash 46; do preferred 72; Fort Wayne 91¾; Terre Haute 34; do preferred 62; Chicago and Alton 113; do preferred 118; Ohio and Mississippi 33; New Jersey Central 104½; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central 20¾; Hartford and Erie 8¾; Joseph 107; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati 74½.

MINING SHARES.

Boston prices—Calumet 80; Copper Falls 8; Franklin 7; Hecla 85; Quincy 78.

Sub-Treasury balances—Gold $56,721,673; currency $7,608,892; general balance, $81,638,119.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, February 23.—Cotton heavy and lower; sales of 2,300 bales at 28½c for middling uplands. Flour—receipts 8,166 bbls; flour quiet and firm for low grades, which are scarce; sales of 5,900 bbls at 5@5 50 for super State and western; $5 15@5 85 for extra State; $5 80@6 for choice do; $5 10@5 50 for superfine Western; $5 45@6 for common to fair extra do; $5 75@6 15 for fancy do; $6 20@6 50 for choice white State; Rye quiet and firm at $1 06@1 07, the latter for Canada; Barley dull at 95c@$1 05. Corn—receipts 48,000 bushels at 80@81c for western; 83@84c for State. Rye quiet; Canadian 90c. Barley quiet and firm; sales 500 bbls Cuba at 10@10½c. Mess pork quiet; sales 200 bbls New Orleans at 19c. Petroleum dull at 16c for crude; 29½c for refined. Beef dull and quiet and firm at 10@13c for American. Wool firm; sales 200 bales New Orleans at 45c; 100 bales Texas at 40c; 100 bales California at 50c; 200 bales pulled at 40@50c. Sugar—receipts 1,200 hhds and 500 bbls; sales of 1,000 hhds at 9¾@10¾c for Cuba muscovado; 11¼@11¾c for centrifugal; 11¾@11¾c for refining grades. Molasses—sales 200 hhds Cuba at 33c. Rice—quiet and firm at 10@12c for Carolina. Coffee—quiet and firm; sales 2,500 bags Rio at 19½@20c for gold. Tallow—quiet and firm at 9½@9¾c. Turpentine quiet at 47½c. Pork—heavy and closing dull; sales 950 bbls at $18 25@18 37 for new mess; $24 for prime mess; also, 250 bbls new mess, seller April, at $18 75, and 250 bbls do for March and April at $18 62. Beef steady and unchanged; sales 50 bbls at $8 50@9 for plain mess; $10@11 for extra do; 50 bbls at $28 00@31 00 for new. Cut meats heavy; sales 100 packages at 10½@11½c for shoulders; 14@14½c for hams. Middles dull; sales 50 boxes long clear at 14½@15c. Dressed hogs a shade firmer at 11½@11¾c for western. Lard heavy and drooping; sales 200 tierces at 14¾@15c for steam, and 16@16½c for kettle rendered. Butter—receipts 12,000 packages; sales 1,000 packages at 25@28c for choice. Cheese dull and heavy at 16@18c, showing copper scarcity at 32c in store. Whisky dull at 21c for Lake Superior. Pig iron quiet at $22 @$24 00 for Scotch and $20@$26 for American. Lead dull at $6 50 for refined English and American. Steel quiet at 15@22c, gold, for English. Nails lower at $4 for cut, 4c for clinch, and 25@25½ for horse shoe. Freights to Liverpool firmer. Unchanged.

LATER.—Flour closed quiet and scarcely so firm. Wheat lower and dull; sales 1,000 bushels at $1 26@1 28 for winter red and amber western, $1 29 for Genesee, and $1 30 for white Canada. Corn firm, quiet and firm at 79@80c for unsound, and 80@80c for sound

The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR RENT.

The four-story building now occupied by the COMMERCIAL, will be for rent on and after April 1st. After that date the COMMERCIAL will be issued from its new quarters, corner of Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite the Post Office.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-pay ment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

	Cents.
Barnitzo, Rev. S. R., Wheeling, Va.	3
Johnson Daniel, Coal Bluff, Pa.	3
Lump John, Wheeling, Va.	3
Malcolm Martin, Kingston, Pa.	3
Schiesy Chas., Cincinnati, O.	3
Slayton & Jenks, Meadville, Pa.	3

CITY COUNCILS.—A regular meeting of this body will be held on next Monday afternoon.

CHILD SCALDED.—It is stated that a little daughter of a widow lady residing in Minersville was badly scalded by falling into a tub of hot water one Monday.

WAREHOUSE FOR SALE.—The attention of business men is directed to the advertisement on first page offering a warehouse in the Diamond for sale.

BRACELET FOUND.—A member of the police force has in his possession a gold bracelet found on Seventh street a day or two since. The owner can have it by calling at his residence, No. 138 Cherry alley.

ICE FROM THE YOUGHIOGHENY.—A number of cars were loading near McKeesport yesterday with ice from the Youghiogheny river. The ice, it is stated, is to be brought to Pittsburgh.

THE CONTEMPLATED MARKET HOUSE.—Arrangements are being made for a meeting of the citizens of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth wards, to discuss the contemplated new market house for that section of the city.

THE PITTSBURGH ZOUAVES.—The Pittsburgh Zouaves have elected the following officers: Captain, Mr. Samuel Kilgore; First Lieutenant, Mr. J. McLanahan; Second Lieutenant, Mr. Van Buskirk.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.—It is stated that a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Soldiers' Monument Association will be held at Maj. Kilgore's office, City Hall, at two o'clock Saturday afternoon.

LEG BROKEN.—William Johnson fell from Smithfield street, near First avenue, yesterday, and broke his leg near the ankle. He resided in Fayette county, to where he was removed and his wounds attended to.

THE JOHNSTON FORGERY CASE.—A hearing will take place to-day in the case of James Johnston, against whom there are four charges of forgery. The hearing was to have taken place on Tuesday, but it was postponed until to-day.

COMMITTED FOR A HEARING.—John Kennedy, charged on oath of N. Whiting, auctioneer, with larceny, was yesterday sent to jail by Mayor Brush for a hearing. The particulars of the case and the arrest of Kennedy were noticed yesterday.

REDUCTION IN PRICES.—In accordance with the decline in prices of groceries and provisions, I have determined to be up with the times, and have therefore made a very liberal reduction in prices. Wm. Wardea, National House, Marietta, Ohio. TTh8

VISIT OF A COMMITTEE.—Henry J. Spence and Samuel McMillan, members of the Steubenville City Council, were in the city yesterday. It appears that Steubenville had decided to procure a steam fire engine, and the gentlemen named are a committee to examine engines in various places, with a view to purchasing. They have recently visited Cleveland and Canton.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.—E. B Eckstein lodged complaint at the Mayor's office yesterday against a young man named Henry Block for false pretenses. It seems that the accused was formerly in the employ of J. D. Hertz, Fifth avenue, but was discharged recently. It is alleged that he went to a Mrs. Elenoiz in Allegheny and collected from her the sum of five dollars, representing, as is alleged, that he was still in Mr. Bernd's employ. A warrant was issued.

THROWN FROM A HORSE AND SERIOUSLY INJURED.—A boy about thirteen years of age, son of John Green, of Bloomfield, was thrown from a horse and severely injured on Tuesday afternoon. It appears that he was riding on a farm horse and carrying a pair of singletrees behind him. The singletrees, jolting on the back of the horse, frightened the animal and caused it to run away. The boy was thrown from the horse with great violence and struck on the ground, his thigh being severely injured. He was attended by Dr. Benjamin, who thinks the unfortunate boy will recover.

A DISEASED HOG CONFISCATED.—Meat inspector Lindsey yesterday confiscated a hog, weighing upwards of four hundred pounds, which a countryman had brought into the market and offered for sale. The meat was not sound, and the inspector, discovering this, seized the "porker" and took it to the Mayor's office. The owner accompanied him and, information for offering diseased meat for sale made against him, he had a hearing, which resulted in his discharge on payment of costs. The hog was sold to a grease boiler for twenty dollars, the money being contributed to the funds of the Gut-House of the Poor.

Narrow Escape from Drowning.

A narrow escape from drowning occurred near McKeesport one day last week. Mr. John R. Smith, a resident of Uniontown, employed a man to take him across the Youghiogheny river in a skiff. Mr. Smith was standing up in the skiff, and the man who was rowing was slightly intoxicated, and shifted about rather unceremoniously in such a manner as to tip the skiff to one side. Mr. S. fell out with his head in the water, and his foot caught between the bottom of the skiff and the seat. It was several minutes before he could be released from his uncomfortable and dangerous situation.

The Third Avenue Assault—Committed for Trial.

Fletcher Calbert, whose arrest on charges of aggravated assault and battery and surety of the peace, on oath of Mattie McConnell, has been noticed, yesterday had a hearing, before Mayor Brush, and, in default of $1,00 bail, was committed to jail to answer both charges. The testimony of the prosecutrix was in substance the same as her statements already published. It appeared from that Calbert dragged her by the hair to the neat of the stairs and then threw her down the same. He had no defense to make, and consequently he was placed in confinement for trial.

Local Bills—Information Wanted.

Two bills, of a local character, have been introduced into the Legislature, which have occasioned considerable inquiry, without eliciting any satisfactory explanation as to their purport. As appears from the files, sent by telegraph to the newspapers here, one is "for the better punishment of disorderly persons in Allegheny county," and the other "to enable the District Attorney of Allegheny county to employ a special detective officer." We have had frequent inquiries in regard to these bills, but as copies have not yet been sent us, we can only answer that we know nothing about them except that appears from the titles. Such measures may be right and proper, and may add to the better administration of public justice; but no matter how urgently they may be demanded, it is but just to the people that their contents be made known before they are passed. Will not some of our representatives send us copies of these bills?

Real Estate Sales.

The following deeds were filed of record before Recorder Hunter, February 23d, 1870:

Josiah Corbett to Robert S. Baldridge, February 21, 1870; 25 perches by 6 perches, in Versailles township.....$50

Elizabeth F. Denney to James McCaffrey, February 19, 1870; 24 by 109 feet on Boundary street, Sixteenth ward.....$600

James Hong to Henry Lang; May 1, 1869; 23 by 38½ feet in McClay's plan of lots.....$450

Robert J. Davis to Arthur B. Smythe, February 5, 1870; 10 by 100 feet, on Beaver street, Allegheny.....$1,500

Alex. Patterson to James Lowrie, April 26, 1869; 20 by 165 feet, on Chartiers street, Allegheny.....$900

A Dishonest Employee.

Recently a butcher doing business in the old Third ward closed up his place of business because of the want of the necessary funds to keep the "head of the establishment above water." The reason for the insolvency was this: He had a young man named Henry Block in his business was growing daily, and this enterprising youth was sent to the move yards to make all the purchases of beeves, hogs, sheep, &c. He displayed considerable business tact, and shrewdness in his dealings with drovers, which so pleased the butcher that he decided to allow him to make all the purchases. Accordingly, a few days ago he sent his agent to the Allegheny drove yard with instructions to expend between three and four hundred dollars. This was all the money he had, either in money or property. The young man went away, but he came not again. Night came on and still he did not come. The stock of meats on hand was sold the next day, and closing up the shop and placing the proceeds—a few dollars—in his pocket, the butcher started out in search of his clerk. Thus far no trace of him have been discovered, and there is little hope that he will be detected, as his real name is not known, it having been ascertained that he was sailing under a false name while in the employ of the now bankrupt butcher.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Common Pleas—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

The case of James Kennedy vs. Dilbridge and others, on trial before Judge Sterrett, went to the jury under charge of the Court, but no verdict had been returned at adjournment.

In the case of George Haslinger vs. Robert Hardy, executor of Benjamin Bahon, deceased, the jury found for the plaintiff the sum of $189.50.

James Collins and others vs. Henry Rhea, Jr. Action to recover a bill of freight and money advanced on a shipment of corn consigned to the defendant. On trial.

The following is the trial list for to-day:

No. 386. First National Bank of Clarion vs. Duff & Ewing.

No. 391. Turnpike Road Co., vs. Oakland Railway Co.

No. 400. Stewart et al. vs. Williams.

No. 361. Carr vs. Carr et al.

No. 369. Cover vs. Speight.

No. 218. Ault vs. Bain.

No. 3. American Iron Mountain Co., vs. O'Connor.

No. 5. Groscad vs. Allegheny City.

No. 19. Bell vs. P. & C. R. R. Co.

No. 24. Burns vs. Anderson.

No. 38. Henderson vs. Allegheny Valley R. R. Co.

No. 61. Finney vs. Brown.

No. 67. Fleiher vs. Taylor.

District Court—Judge Kirkpatrick.

In the case of Duff vs. Wilson, which has been on the docket for days past, the jury found a verdict for the defendant.

Rahenstein vs. The Pittsburgh, Farmers and Mechanics Turnpike Road Company. The plaintiff is a tanner, and his tannery is located on the road of the defendants, at Soho. In 1867 the bridge over Soho run fell down, and caused the water in the run to back up and inundate the property of the plaintiff, damaging it to the amount of $3,000, to recover which this suit was brought. The following is the trial list for to-day:

No. 172. Simpson vs. Gilmore.

No. 94. Rees vs. Morrow.

No. 145. Lewis vs. Johnston and wife.

No. 112. Dooley vs. school. & Laurent.

No. 178. Brook, use, vs. Steamer "Reindeer."

No. 178. Kennedy vs. Errett, Anderson & Co.

No. 179. Craig vs. Bixby.

No. 180. Steamer "Grey Fox" vs. Millinger, McClary & Co.

No. 181. Bake and wife vs. Dickson and wife.

No. 182. Bake and wife vs. Moore.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Annual Meeting of the Stockholders.

Earnings During 1869, $810,924 68—An Increase of $265,705 Over the Previous Year—An Adjourned Meeting to be Held to Hear the Report of the President—Election of Managers for 1870.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company was held yesterday morning, at the office of the Company, No. 26 Pike street, for the purpose of electing a Board of Managers for the ensuing year and transacting such other business as might come before them.

ORGANIZATION.

On motion of F. R. Brunot, Esq., the meeting was organized by the election of Henry Whelen, Esq., of Philadelphia, as Chairman, and N. P. Sawyer, Esq., as Secretary.

NO REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Wm. Phillips, Esq., President of the Board of Managers, then stated that on account of his having been away from the city lately, on business connected with the Company, making arrangements with other companies for connections, &c., and having just returned from a two weeks' tour, he had been unable to make out his annual report. He therefore asked the indulgence of the stockholders for the present, and suggested that an adjourned meeting be held on Tuesday, March 22d, 1870, when he would submit his annual report of the operations of the company during 1869.

Mr. Brunot moved that a letter of the statement by the President, the meeting adjourn until the 22d of March, which was carried unanimously.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES DURING 1869.

Mr. Phillips then stated that for the information of the stockholders he would submit a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the road during the year. The statement is as follows:

OFFICE ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD } CO., PITTSBURGH, Feb. 23d, 1870. }

The gross earning for the year ending Jan. 31, 1870, were.....$1,201,777 02

Expenditures during the same period.....392,852 34

Net earnings, 1869.....$810,924 68

RECEIPTS FOR 1868.

The gross earnings for the year ending Jan. 31, 1869, were.....$936,081 37

Expenditures during the same period 482,961 69

Net earnings, 1868.....$453,119 68

INCREASE.

Increase in gross earnings, 29 8-10 per cent., or.....$274,291 65

Increase in expenses, 1 6-10 per cent., or 10,988 65

Increase in net earnings, 108 4-10 per cent., or.....265,705 03

The President explained that although the net earnings were double those of 1868, the expenditures were only about $10,000 in excess over the report of 1868. He further stated that the figures would appear in full in the regular report to be presented a month hence.

The Secretary was instructed to record the financial statement in the minutes.

The next business in order was declared to be the election of a Board of Managers for the ensuing year, and on motion the election was proceeded with.

The officers appointed to conduct the election were Messrs. Jeffrey, Jr., and Messrs. Wm. Gormley and Joshua Rhodes, Tellers.

THE MANAGERS.

The election resulted as follows:

Wm. Phillips,	F. R. Brunot,
J. Palmer Lyon,	B. F. Jones,
W. K. Nimick,	Jas. Park, Jr.
Wm. M. Lyon,	

The meeting then adjourned.

TAX ON PERSONAL PROPERTY.

A Subject for Legislation.

The abolition of the State tax on real estate was a very popular measure; but, owing to the wretched system of making assessments on personal property, it affords no actual relief to the owners of real estate. All personal property in this Commonwealth is liable to a tax of three mills for State purposes, and if properly assessed it would yield a revenue largely in excess of the amount required. Moneys at interest, all kinds of stocks (excepting bank stocks), carriages, horses, cows, gold and silver watches, furniture in excess of three hundred dollars in value, etc., etc., are assessable; but of the many millions of dollar's worth of this species of property in the county, only a fraction is returned on the duplicate for taxation, yielding only about $7,000. The amount due for the State Revenue Board, from this county, was "$17,55, so that the deficit in the personal tax exceeds $10,000. Deduct the deficiency, and all additional levy of two mills on *real estate* was necessary, and will be collected this year. This is the way in which real estate is exempted from taxation for state purposes! As there is not the slightest prospect that the personal property of the country will be assessed at anything like its actual value, unless our tax laws are raised by the Legislature, the State tax on real estate must be abolished as well as the local, so in fact, and so far as the tax payers are concerned the "abolition" is a mere sham.

Allegheny county, with all its wealth, returns a fraction *over one and a half millions* in personal property, "all pertaining to that city alone returns *one hundred and fifty-three millions* of dollars, specific property only, real and personal, valuation of the city of Cleveland is *eighty millions*, while the total valuation of Allegheny county is only a bit, a little *over forty-one millions!* Here we have a city, with a population of over two hundred thousand people *more* than Allegheny, showing a valuation almost double that of the entire county of Allegheny—looking for two cities wealthy neighboring boroughs! All this would make little difference, perhaps, were it not for the gross inequalities in our system of making assessments. The prejudices of the Irish have been largely honored by assessors, and assessments are made almost at random. Men wealthy in personal property escape taxation altogether, while the owner of a small dwelling, or a few acres of land, is heavily taxed. As a general rule, the more property a man owns in the city, the less he pays. Exemptions are his taxes, as the assessors have a "dumping" system which operates largely in favor of the wealthy. As to the assessments on personal property, the return of seven thousandths of a mill on all such property shows the system a fraud and a humbug. In fact, every man of small wealth is liable to a tax of one dollar, and every silver watch to a tax of fifty cents. If this tax could be collected, it would yield a greater revenue than the entire revenue from personal property last year. The United States Assessors round over ten thousand watches in Allegheny county, while the county assessors returned, perhaps, not as many hundreds. Some of the ward assessors do not return a single watch, with the gross negligence is manifested in assessing furniture at from one to three dollars per room. There is scarcely a man in the county, owning a house worth more than three hundred dollars! Some of the assessors, to overcome the difficulty presented by persons estimating the value of household articles, conveniently declare that a piano is not furniture. All kinds of absurd and ridiculous excuses are made for the neglect of assessors' duty, and the consequences is that millions of dollars worth of property either escape taxation altogether, or are kept entirely out of sight, and the burden is imposed upon real estate. The present personal tax is collected in the form of taxes, comes from moneys at interest, horses, cows, etc., etc., under a proper assessment the books, carriages, furniture, watches, etc., owned in the cities and boroughs, should be duly returned and taxed.

Why a great State like Pennsylvania should cling to such a miserable system, the effect of inflicting unequal and unjust burdens upon so many of her citizens, can scarcely be accounted for. If there were no better plan, the people might be excused for patiently bearing with the evil; but with the example of Ohio before them, where all property is assessed according to its true money value, and where no one tax payer has any advantage over another, the wonder is that our Legislature has not been overwhelmed with petitions for a change in the law. The system of compelling every man to make his own valuation is certainly the most efficient and equitable, and cannot be adopted a day too soon in the State.

ICE.

The Dealers at Work.

The "cold snap" has terminated, and most of the ice dealers, regarding this as the "last chance," were actively at work yesterday storing the best of the crop offered them. The supplies were principally drawn from the Allegheny river, where ice had formed along the shores to the thickness of from three to four inches. The river was quite high when the freeze began. As the waters receded, the ice was left upon the banks, and this, lowering the river, left the ice suspended. The quality is of course not the best, but as the crop is deemed very uncertain after the first of January, dealers are not so fastidious after the middle of February. It is true, very good ice was housed last year after the 20th of March, but that season was unusually light and favorable, and such opportunity may not happen again in a lifetime. The ice put up last March was "flat" ice, which had formed on the frontiaries of the Allegheny, and was caught in the river at this point after the "break up." It is risky to depend upon getting a supply in this way this spring, and ice car dealers, and those who store ice on private account, are taking measures accordingly. A fair quality comes within reach hereafter, it will be secured. A splendid article formed on the Hempfield Lake, near this city, which is now being housed in good condition, and which will be made to supply the wants of many families in the city and vicinity. It is said that there is a good quality of ice at Cleveland, and should it become necessary our dealers can supply from that quarter. Whatever may be lacking in thus out of the citizens may have no fears of a scarcity of this luxury during the coming summer, though they may perhaps be called upon to pay higher rates for what they use. All may at least console themselves with the reflection that there will be no "ice famine" during this goodly year 1870.

Police Intelligence.

[Before Deputy Mayor Nichols, Lawrenceville.]

DUCKED IN A POND.

Valentine Halfen, a resident of the Deputy Mayor yesterday, his clothing well saturated with water, and alleged that he had been a sufferer to a considerable extent at the hands of a man named Edward Shields. It seems that Halfen with Shields, cutting ice out of one of the ponds in Allegheny Cemetery, when the latter in consequence of a little altercation pushed him in, and as a result he was half drowned and nearly frozen. The accused was arrested and held in the sum of $300 for a hearing.

NUISANCE.

A man named James Johnson was arrested Tuesday night for committing a nuisance on the street. He was fined $5 and costs.

[Before Alderman McMasters.]

DRINKING UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

John Maley alleges that he took a drink yesterday evening, which resulted more seriously than he expected. He says that he entered the saloon at the corner of Wood and Water streets to take a drink, and as he was about to carry out the intention he was approached by Peter Duffy, Charles O'Donnell and others unknown, who asked him to treat. He declined saying that he would be willing to do so some other time. He then proceeded to the bar, and was handing a couple of funds being reduced to ten cents, He then proceeded to raise the drink, which he had poured out, to his lips, when he was forcibly prevented by the old adage about "many a slip 'twixt cup and lip" by the defendants, who he says struck him, knocked him down and then tramped on him, breaking in one or two of his ribs. A warrant was issued for the arrest of the alleged offenders.

[Before Alderman Thomas.]

ALLEGED BARRATRY.

J. Kleipner preferred a charge of barratry against C. H. Simmons. The accused was arrested and required to give bail for a hearing on Saturday next.

THE HOWARD SCHOOL BILL.

An Analysis of its Provisions—A Budget of Blunders.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

If the controversy relative to the Howard bill had no ulterior object, or had it arisen solely on a question of its merit, we would have abstained from trespassing on your columns. All such controversies carried on in good faith and without misrepresentation from either party, are beneficial to the community. No one, however, can fail to see there is another object than the public good. It may be that the public will be benefited by the passage of the bill, and that the basis of the controversy is sound in principle. But that principle becomes a beast of burthen, carrying a great load of personal figures and petty prejudices when it is used for private purposes. That Mr. Howard is entitled to a fair defense of his bill is true, and the people will appreciate such defense, separated from personal insult, but they would prefer to see some little dignity of character joined with so much that is vituperative.

Mr. Howard is angry. He has accused the Central Board of working for the nomination of Mr. Anderson, and appears to think he was personally insulted when I do not know that the Central Board were friends of Mr. Anderson, but my impression has always been, that the electors of the county of Allegheny were perfectly competent when they pleased, and that it was an assumption of superiority to cavil over the fact, and denounce any one who chose to support another equally good man for nomination. If Mr. Howard is angry at this, he can rest assured that *the people are his masters.*

I say this because the attempt to electioneer in places of trust, are the fruitful sources of bad *special legislation.* It is idle to talk about packing incorruptible men in office or from the hour they step in they are devising and scheming plans to further their ends. Every man has the right to use the place the people have given him as a nest where he may incubate over his petty political animosities.

But Mr. Howard rather boastingly asserts he "will stand by his bill." To this we have no objection. Mr. H. must be responsible. An analysis may be of some advantage. Regarding it in the light of a scholarly production we venture to assert that any one reading it, and learning that it was the creation of a Pittsburgh Representative, would instantly decide we stood greatly in need of common schools. We do not hesitate to say that, without exception, it is the most confused and unintelligible jargon, of words that we either with his indifference of goods in a grab-bag, that we have ever read as an act of the Legislature. On its face it manifests great hurry, as though the writer believed that could he get it introduced before any action of the Central Board, he would make capital for himself and against them.

It commences as follows: "That the *control* board of education, &c. There is no such body corporate in this city. In another place he names it "The Central School Board." That is equally wrong. It has a title—"The Central Board of Education," &c., and is empowered to use and be sued by that name and title. Mr. Howard had the act of 1809 before him. He is a resident of this city, and, regarded as "interested in free schools." It was just as easy to write the title correctly as incorrectly, and he either made the error through carelessness or because it did not become him to recognize the existence of the Board. It may be said to be a trifling error. There is no excuse for such errors, trifling or otherwise, particularly when it is a special law, made expressly for the Central Board.

It empowers the "Control Board of Education to select from the several banks or private exchange brokers of said city a treasurer or place of deposit.

This excludes Banking Associations, such as the First Pitt Bank, Central Bank, Fifth Avenue Bank, National Trust Company, and a host of others, who are unincorporated Banking Associations, and are neither Private Banks nor Exchange Brokers." These are the very parties most likely to bid the highest rates of interest. It was audacious in the Central Board loan its money to these Banking Associations, when by the very terms of the act, the "Control Board" to loan to "Banks or regular Exchange Brokers." But says the bill, *Banks or* regular Exchange Brokers. We made the inquiry in good faith—how is a National Bank or Banking Association "regularly" to file a special purpose; their liabilities are set forth, and in case of failure their *private* distribution of assets among depositors is established. But what authority under a local Pittsburgh act, have they a right to give bond in four good securities for deposits of the Central Board? Have they a right to go outside of their charters and give to the Central Board *bonds* that may jeopardize my interest as an individual depositor? And is an individual entitled only to a *pro rata* distribution of their assets under the law of their charter, or can they *pro rata* claim liable to be reduced by a *special* Pittsburgh local act, empowering them to enter into bond for the deposits of the Central Board? These are questions for the learned gentleman. We do not assert that a National Bank or a corporate body may not become treasurer. We only state the fact, but have no doubt that they have the right they should not have.

The exchange brokers are alone left. But if the bill reads? "All bankers doing business in the city," the question could not have arisen. We do not say that he has any interest in this, but we do say from all the facts, that while it is in fact limited, it is open to benefit, it may be some exchange brokers.

"For all school funds under control of said Board." Here we have it to "build castles." Nearly one hundred school districts have surplus funds in the hands of their Treasurers. This bill allows them to keep it.

"Shall pay interest." His language will not bear him to say he was not aware of the fact of surplus funds being in the hands of Treasurers of school districts. He has made over one hundred speeches for free schools, and knows all about their workings. If the Board of Allegheny county, why did he not embrace Allegheny City? True, Mr. Graham represents that city, but Mr. Howard represents the interests and cares nothing for Mr. Graham.

"Shall require" all payments with said treasurer or depositories shall be kept in the name of the Board, &c. As we have said before there is no such body. The object of the bill is to place the surplus funds in the hands of Allegheny county at call. Frequently cases of delinquent school tax. The claim by Howard's bill must be made in the name of *"the Central School Board."* By the act of 1854, to prevent delay in collecting taxes in favor of the *"Central Board of Education." "This is merely matters with a vengeance."* Here has been a hasty and ill-digested effort at the bill that might almost be termed indecent. "It shall not be lawful to make transfers of deposits *on pain* and forty or fifty of the malcontents, who were assembled in the city hall, marched off to the lock-up, and made the streets musical along the route of the procession. It was an hour or more before bail could be registered and assigned cells, and then the police, not feeling particularly personal cafe, *not* a school law, that must be repealed before the Central Board to place the surplus funds at interest. Would it not have been wise to repeal *all laws* inconsistent herewith?

In conclusion let me add that in 1855 the surplus fund would not have exceeded $2,000 dollars. In 1857 there were thousands of dollars interest due, and in the interim it had been impossible the School Treasuries were actually beggared. In 1860 we had a law passed after the panic of 1857, reviving this. Mr. How ard's bill once more, in these days of financial difficulty, opens a door for the embarrassment of the scenes of 1857. Whether he has given any thought to the consequences of passing this measure, than he has to the preparation of his bill is a matter of grave doubt, that he courts the entanglement of law. We have no objection to his meeting them. Only let us have a bill that at least reads intelligibly and provides for the object intended. Then, as he requests, let him stand or fall by his bill or fail.

OLD THE SENATOR CALLS "MASTER."

THE ART GALLERY.

New Pictures on the Walls.

Those of our readers who have not found time to visit the Art Gallery, on Liberty street, opposite the head of Wood, could not find a better opportunity than the present. Messrs. Linford & Johns, the artists who conceived and carried out the idea, have made many very important, and, we think, excellent changes in the arrangement of the pictures on exhibition. The walls have been repainted, and the gain to the pictures as to light is very apparent to every observer. Just here we will take occasion to express the opinion that out of upwards of forty places in this city at which are very few that will not be classed by those whose opinion is based upon experience and extended observation as strong pictures.

Among the recent additions to the gallery is a winter scene, by Lawman, which cannot fail to arrest the eye of the visitor. Cold winter scenes are extremely rare, hence the more highly prized when the artist succeeds in reproducing nature in her severer moods. Lawman's last production will be regarded by every lover of nature as one of the truest representations of winter to be found in a day's search among good pictures. There is winter coming in the dark clouds, winter in the stream, in the heavy drifts in the foreground, as well as in the solitary human figure and lonely accessible farm house is half buried in snow. The trees in the distance are weighted with their white burden, which crushes them down into a network precisely as we see in nature